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The Bethel Citizen

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Serving Bethel and neighboring communities in the mountains of western Maine

Newry voters turn out, overwhelmingly turn down conservation commission proposal

By ALISON ALOISIO

Following an overwhelming defeat at town meeting Monday for a proposal to establish a Newry Conservation Commission, Steve Wight said he has no immediate plans for the committee that crafted the plan to bring back a scaled-down version for consideration.

Instead, he said, the best course of action for now may be to wait for residents to get a better sense of how nearby commissions in Bethel and Woodstock function.

Eighty-one voters turned out at the special meeting Monday to consider four ordinance proposals.

Many who spoke against the commission said they were concerned about its members possibly coming onto their land to inventory habitat, and later translating that work into more regulations.

'I don't notice any polluted water, destroyed wetlands, or endangered habitat.'

ROGER WHEELER

The proposed ordinance, based on a 1987 state law and model that allows for such commissions, describes one of the duties to be "conduct research into local land areas and develop an index of all open areas within the town, whether publicly or privately owned, including

See NEWRY, Page 4

'Pennies for the Pantry' taps spirit of the season

The pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters and bills are adding up — toward Pennies for the Pantry's goal of raising $5,000 to $7,000 to stock the Bethel Food Pantry for the winter. Here, in an impromptu counting room in Gould Academy's McLaughlin Sci-ence Center, Naomi Cunningham, of Vermont, (left) and Caroline Masters-Siekman, a second grader at Crescent Park School, dig for dollars stuffed by generous donors into the plastic collection kegs; while international students Lydia Zhao, of China, and Sidney Weber, of France, count coins, under the guidance of Pennies for the Pantry volunteer Kara Masters. For more on local fundraising efforts see letter, Page 2, and REACHOUT photo, Page 8. *(Photo: M. Daniels)*

Petition seeks to halt new land acquisitions for Umbagog N.W.R.

By ALISON ALOISIO

A petition launched in Errol, N.H., and now circulating in Upton is asking Maine and New Hampshire congressional representatives to curtail funding for further land acquisition near the Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge because, according to the document, the project will "destroy outrway of life, tax us out of our homes and destroy our towns."

The 25,000-acre refuge, established in 1992 with 128 acres, straddles the state line and borders the towns of Errol and Upton, Maine.

Under the federal Comprehensive Conservation Plan approved for Umbagog two years ago, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is seeking to buy, from willing sellers, another 26,840 acres and purchase conservation easements on about 20,967 acres in Errol, Upton and other nearby towns and plantations. Much of the land is owned by timber and other large companies, according to the refuge.

The petition was started by Robert Lord of Errol, a retired teacher, who said the ultimate plan of the USFWS is to take over land throughout the North Country, a "federal land grab," as he describes it.

Lord said Monday that when the plan was proposed at a public hearing two years ago in Errol, "everyone who spoke, spoke against it."

He said the petition will be available for signing through February. It is addressed to Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine, Sen. Kelly Ayotte and

See UMBAGOG, Page 17

Municipal gas utility a nonstarter in Bethel

By MICHAEL DANIELS

With no comment, other than to thank the eight members of the Ad Hoc Natural Gas Committee for their efforts, the Bethel Board of Selectmen accepted the group's final report Monday evening.

The committee was formed in August to explore the feasibility of establishing municipal entity to provide natural gas to Bethel area businesses.

Its final conclusion: "The Ad Hoc Natural Gas Committee has determined that having the Town of Bethel form a municipal entity for distribution of natural gas in Bethel is not feasible."

The committee based its conclusion on several factors, most involving the financial exposure the town would face should the project fail economically.

"1. We can be confident that the municipal gas distribution utility would be solvent if and only if most of the potential demand can be realized as actual demand. Specifically, solvency would require that the "anchor customers" (Sunday River, Gould Academy, Bethel Inn) convert to natural gas at the outset and stay converted throughout the period of the bond. We see no way for a municipal utility to ensure this. While long term energy contracts between large users and utilities are not unusual, energy contracts with a term of 20-30 years are indeed unusual.

"2. We cannot discount the possibility that the propane industry might see fit to undercut our gas price, even operating at a loss, for as long as

See UTILITY, Page 3

Natural-gas advocate: *Something stinks ...*

By MICHAEL DANIELS

In the introduction to its report for the selectmen, the Ad Hoc Natural Gas Committee notes that Bethel resident Chris Garner "did much of the preliminary thinking about this project, starting with contacting local potential 'anchors' and business partners. The lower cost per unit of natural gas compared to oil and lesser environmental impact of natural gas were factors which spurred his interest."

Garner also served briefly as chairman of the committee, but resigned after its first meeting, claiming his efforts were being thwarted by "sarcasm, personal attacks, disinformation and distortion."

Asked Tuesday afternoon for his view of the committee's final assessment, Garner replied an hour later with a 1274-word e-mail, headed "Something stinks ... and it's not natural gas."

"I do not agree with the findings nor the means with which they were reached or presented. I do not think it addresses feasibility as much as it is an opinion. More importantly, I do not believe the process was politically or ethically legitimate."

He goes on to argue that an alternative energy source, wood pellets, "were a larger part of this discussion than was tenable."

See GARNER, Page 3

MAKING UP FOR MOTHER NATURE'S SHORTCOMINGS

After Irene Anderson of Albany had heart surgery last summer, she couldn't tend her large garden or mow her even larger yard. So to occupy herself, she threw herself into another love — crocheting. Over the next few months, she crocheted more than 100 snowflakes to put on her Christmas tree. "I can make two or three in a day," she said. For now, at least, that's more than Mother Nature is making.

(Photo: A. Aloisio)

AWD complainants now looking into possibility of insurance reimbursement to town for sale of land

By ALISON ALOISIO

Andover's attorney last week advised selectmen that little would likely be gained by the town investing time and money trying to gain title to the Andover Water District's former reservoir land, or from trying to get the money from any penalty that might be imposed on AWD by the Public Utilities Commission.

And although an attorney from the Maine Public Advocate's Office had harsh words for the AWD trustees regarding last year's sale of the land, he, too, was not optimistic about any remedy for the town or the district ratepayers.

But Sid Pew, one of the complainants in the AWD case, would like to know whether the district has liability insurance that might pay the town for the lost value of the land. And he and fellow-complainant Brian Mills, through a recent filing with the PUC, are asking the commission to request that the state Attorney General's office look into pos-

See AWD, Page 5

Celebrate the Holidays at the Inn!

The Millbrook Tavern & Grille
Open nightly for dinner, 4pm for cocktails, 5pm – 9pm for dinner!
Lunch & cocktails on Christmas Eve & Day at 12noon
Mexican night returns Thursday, 12/22... join us!
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Due to the short production time, we've had to move our
AD DEADLINES
to Friday, Dec. 23 & Dec. 30 at 12:00 Noon
Happy Holidays!

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Letters

OUI ROADBLOCKS FRIDAY

To the Editor:

Troop B of the Maine State Police plans on conducting three OUI roadblock details in the coming weeks as follows:

— The evening of Dec. 16 in Cumberland County.

— The evening of Dec. 17 in Androscoggin County.

— The evening of Dec. 23 in Oxford County.

The purpose of these details is to make the roadways of Maine safer by identifying individuals who are operating motor vehicles under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. While everyone knows that operating a motor vehicle under the influence poses significant dangers on the roadways, many people still do it. Our hope is to find those folks and get them off the road before they hurt themselves or others.

These details are funded through a Maine Department of Highway Safety Grant focusing on impaired driving during this holiday season.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season, but remember if you are going to drink, please don't drive.

Lt. Walter F. Grzyb
Maine State Police -Troop B, Gray

GRANDSON HEADED DOWN UNDER

To the Editor:

My grandson, Dustin Heath, has been invited to compete in the Down Under Sports Competition in Australia! Dustin was selected first-round pick to represent his state of New Hampshire and Country in the International Track and Field competition.

Dustin has been a three-sport student athlete year-round competing in soccer, basketball, and Track in Field sinse seventh grade. He is now 17 and a junior at the Berlin High School, Berlin.

Dustin was recognized by Down Under Sports for his time last year as a sophomore at the New Hampshire State Competition for the 800 meter. Dustin's hard work and determination, both academically and athletically have paid off what an honor to be recognized for his ability, selected for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

My grandson is looking forward to representing his family, school, state and country in this 24th annual Down Under International Sports Competition in July 2012.

My daughter, Nancy, and I are asking our communities for their support, in the effort of fundraising the money to help send Dustin to the Down Under Competition. For more information about this event and sponsoring my grandson for the trip, please visit www.downundersports.com and click on Sponsors.

Or by mail payable to International Sports Specialist, Inc., Down Under Sports, 1755 North 400 East, Suite 201, North Logan, UT 84341.

International Sports Specialist Inc, is sponsoring Dustin by offering to enter, sponsors in any amount into a drawing: first draw is two all-expense paid trip to the 2012 Down Under Competition, the second draw is a five-day Caribbean cruise for two.

Thank you, for any and all of your support.

Judy Lamontagne
Bethel, pantcy@yahoo.com..

M.A.C. PHONE-E-THON THANKS

To the Editor:

The Mahoosuc Arts Council would like to sincerely thank the many community members and businesses for the extraordinary show of support during our annual phone-a-thon and annual fund drive over the past month.

During such a tough economy, new gifts and increases to pledges from previous donors are continuing, which validates our efforts to bring high-quality programs in the performing and visual arts and humanities into our community and schools.

For those who would like to make your impact, it is not too late. During this season of giving many of us are making careful decisions on how we will spend our charitable donation budgets on meaningful gifts to nonprofits which will benefit our communities and local economies.

The Mahoosuc Arts Council asks that you consider making a gift to support the advancement of the arts and humanities in the adult communities and school systems of the Greater Bethel Area.

Supporting this cause not only has significant cultural and educational impact, it also has broad economic impact: The council employs Maine visual and performing artists; The council build opportunities for small businesses in the arts; The council's events draw thousands of visitors to Western Maine who also patronize inns, restaurants, gift shops, gas stations, grocery stores, campgrounds, galleries and more.

So, your gift to the Mahoosuc Arts Council not only helps to support the arts and humanities, it will also help to support jobs, business opportunities, cultural tourism, arts educational programming and much, much more.

Many thanks to all who have donated time, given gifts, offered moral support, pledged donations or attended performances over all of those years.

And, many thanks to those who will consider giving to the arts for the first time. Happy Holidays.

Aranka Matolcsy
Executive Director, Mahoosuc Arts Council

The Bethel Citizen

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THANKS FOR SUPPORTING EXCHANGE AND PANTRY

To the Editor:

Over the last month, our community has given greatly to support the Bethel Area District Exchange and Food Pantry. It all started with the CROP walk which donated the funds raised to the Food Pantry. Special thanks to Jane Chandler who spearheaded this.

Next came that wonderful annual event Turkey Tuesday. Over 300 people gathered for a wonderful meal at the Locke's Mills Legion Hall and donated food and money to the Food Pantry. And here, special thanks go to Dave and Heather Nivus who have put this together for 21 years and to the Legion that donates the space.

When we recently put out the request for children's winter jackets and pants, the community responded with donations of these items. These will help keep our children warm this winter.

The new facility at Bethel Park for the District Exchange initially came about through the suggestion of Clyde Brown, Bethel Park maintenance manager, who suggested the unused space and put us in touch with Park owner, Stanford Management.

Thanks, Clyde. And, thanks to Rosa Scarcelli, owner Stanford Management, who donated use of the space to us. By the way, she is also donating $1,000 to the Food Pantry in January. Thanks, Rosa.

And as if that was not enough, we have received Food Pantry donations from area businesses and organizations as well as individuals. Thanks to all of you. The Food Pantry provides food by referral to people in crisis.

Then there are the great volunteers who do all the work to put on the above events. And, last but far from least, are the many volunteers at the Bethel Area District Exchange and Food Pantry who give of their time to run these operations year-in and year-out. This past week they went all out to pull together, on very short notice, a grand opening celebration at the District Exchange. Thanks to every single one of you.

Our District Exchange and Food Pantry are certainly community assets that are run by and supported by community members. Thank you all.

Betsey Foster,
President, The Bethel Area District Exchange and Food Pantry

HELP US GROW 'PENNIES FOR THE PANTRY'

To the Editor:

"Pennies for the Pantry" is accepting coin and dollar donations to stock the Bethel Food Pantry through the winter.

This week residents and visitors may contribute to a Crescent Park School classroom collection or to a collection tub at The Bethel Shop n' Save (Bethel Foodliner). The idea for "Pennies for the Pantry" came on the tailwind of the Crescent Park School Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive.

The purpose and action of the children of Crescent Park School while gathering, hauling and weighing the food that was donated for Thanksgiving was inspirational. They really got into the community spirit of helping with the food-drive project.

A group of citizens were informed that our coins and dollars could go further for the Bethel Food Pantry by the purchase of foods for cost from the Bethel Shop 'n Save and from the Good Shepherd Food Bank.

Our goal is to raise funds to stock the Bethel Food Pantry for the winter. This cost will be between $5,000 to $7,000. One dollar can go as far as eight dollars due to lower food cost and donated food that is available to food banks and pantries.

We want to involve children of all grade levels and evolve a community-wide fundraising project to include more schools and organizations.

This year we involved the Crescent Park School, the Gould Academy community, and the Bethel Shop 'n Save.

The Bethel Shop 'n Save (Foodliner) supports local donations for the Bethel area and the Bethel school district. The Gould Academy branch of the project rounded up at Yulefest on Friday, Dec. 16, with funds raised through a competition between four groups: the three dormitories and the day-student group. Including an anonymous grant, which matched the highest group's collection total, funds raised were just shy of $1, 000.

Crescent Park School classrooms are competing this week to bring in the most coins and dollars for the "Pennies for the Pantry" project.

The CPS student council is carrying out the project. The classroom that collects the most dollars and coins will receive an ice cream party in January. Contributions can be placed in the "Pennies for the Pantry" containers at the registers as you check out of the Bethel Shop 'n Save.

Next year we would like to invite all SAD44 schools and local businesses and organizations to participate. Together we can meet the goal of stocking the pantry for the winter.

Thank you to every one of you who has contributed food, coins, and dollars to The Bethel Food Pantry this year, and we welcome you to join us to make our circle bigger.

Kara Masters
Pennies for the Pantry volunteer

G.O.P. PLEDGES ITS ALLEGIANCE ... TO A LOBBYIST

To the Editor:

I believe that it is so inconceivable to the collective American electorate, that they can't comprehend that the hierarchy of a once well-regarded political party would allow its governing capabilities to become usurped by the dictatorial influence of a corporate lobbyist.

All but one of the top Republican candidates for President of the United States, and most of the House and Senate Republicans have signed Grover Norquist's irrevocable pledge never to raise taxes, under any circumstance. Strict adherence to that pledge renders the Republican party's ability to govern in the best interest of the collective citizenry of this nation impugned beyond redemption.

Grover Norquist, a non-elected, behind-the-scenes phantom, corporate dictator has such a profound stranglehold on the Republican party, that their allegiance to his no tax pledge takes precedence over their pledge to serve the best interest of the people who elected them.

Grover Norquist is backed by the monetary might of the top one percent, the too-big-to-fail corporate interests, the large financial institutions, a biased supreme court judiciary, and a political party that is totally dedicated to their best interest. If the intent of these entities are allowed to prevail, the citizenry of this once great democratic nation could find themselves governed by an oppressive corporate dictatorship.

In this case, a non-elected corporate dictator, Grover Norquist can be deposed by an indignant electorate. This can be accomplished by the opportunistic voting out, of all those whose governing credentials are rendered useless by adherence to an ill-conceived and pointless pledge.

Don Chase
Bethel

'Celladore'

From the 1954-1964 Journals of Beckie Bailey, Installment 50

The First Years: Do You See Many Wild Animals, Many Birds?

When we first lived here, in the flush of enthusiasm of trying everything that used to be done in olden times, I had a spell of making doughnuts often. Often, because it took six or seven tries before finding the secret. Let more than a week elapse between batches, and the key to success, having the fat just hot enough and the dough just soft enough, disappeared. Mrs. S. had left us a black iron kettle with a swinging handle, perfect width and depth for doughnut fat.

Handling doughnut fat is a feat in itself. After you finish the frying, put a cut-up potato in the kettle to clarify the fat as it cools. When ready to do the next batch, set the kettle on the back of the stove where it is not hot enough to melt the fat but a medium warm spot. At the magic time, cut the fat in half with a knife, flip the fat back, do the other half, then add the needed amount of new fat. Cautious souls accumulate the debris in a dish and later burn it between two sticks of green wood to keep it from flaring up like a volcano. Those who like to live dangerously or who want to save washing an extra greasy dish just toss the debris into the fire as it is scraped away.

Carrying the hot kettle to the shed to cool is another perilous adventure, to avoid spilling and possible sever burns. Tales heard during my childhood of such burns made a deep impression on me. Any woman who would dream of such a thing as making doughnuts with children in the house unattended by another adult was not considered a responsible member of society. She might be able to sing like Melba, cook like Escoffier, manage a twelve-in-the-family household thriftily, but she still was not a reliable person and never, never, never could be the chairman of any committee. I was more cautious than I should have been carrying a Tiffany crystal punchbowl. Warily I looked over the kitchen floor to see if any unexpected booby traps were there, propped the shed door open with a big chunk of wood, checked that the rubber foot scraper was firmly down, put an old board on the floor to set the hot kettle on. Then with two large pot holders I put one hand on the handle of the kettle, one on the edge, lifted it, walked gingerly to the shed, and carefully lowered it to the floor, quickly clapped a cover on to keep out the dir. Then, this accomplished, I ground coffee beans and called anyone about to come and have a feast of hot doughnuts.

As soon as the kettle is cool, put it back in place on a shelf but I sometimes forgot to do this until the next day. Once when I lifted off the cover to start a new batch of doughnuts, I saw marks on the surface that looked like hieroglyphics. Eagle Eye was in the kitchen cleaning a bridle and said, "You forgot to put the kettle away last time, didn't you?"

"What makes you think that?"

"Look at the surface of the fat; what do you think did that?"

"What?"

"Coons; they are curious, and love fat."

"I may forget to put the kettle away sometimes, but I never forget to put the cover on."

"Coons can take the cover off and put it back easily." He took all the fat down to the furnace. I was more careful afterwards, but I sometimes put the last few old doughnuts from the bottom of the jar out at night on the shed floor. They were always gone in the morning.

Continues Next Week

Our Back Pages

Compiled by Danna Brown Nickerson

10 years ago: Students from the Spring Street Dance Studio of Bethel performed for the patients at the Maine Veterans' Home in South Paris.

Participants were being sought for the annual Living Nativity in Bethel. Country Woman magazine planned to photograph the event for use in a future article.

Deaths: Ruth H. Cummings, Donald W. Calderwood, Henry Knox Bickford, Jr., Shirley D. Tracy, Phyllis W. Williamson, Reta L. Emond

20 years ago: After three decades of service, Sam Timberlake announced his resignation as Bethel Code Enforcement Officer, effective Jan. 17, 1992.

Work was progressing on the newly enclosed porch addition at Mother's Restaurant, and it was expected to be ready for business in time for the busy holiday break.

Death: Margaret H. Humphrey.

30 years ago: Schools were canceled for two days when back-to-back storms dumped up to 10 inches of snow mixed with freezing rain in the area.

The Bethel Lions Club held its annual Christmas Party and Ladies' Night. Music was provided by Elden Hathaway and Group.

Birth: Travis McLellan Gilbert.

Death: Mary Jane Houde.

40 years ago: The second floor of the Main Street building owned by John E. Grover was being converted into six luxury motel units and one efficiency apartment.

Mrs. Marjorie Jodrey was appointed postmaster of Andover.

Birth: Carl Arthur Baker.

Death: Orlando E. Jordan.

50 years ago: Charles Tuell suffered a severe shaking up, head bruises, and loosened teeth when his truck left the road and hit a tree at South Bethel during a storm.

Sunday River Skiway was open with 12 inches of snow at the base.

Following several months of renovations, the former Bethaven was opened as the Norseman Inn by Mr. and Mrs. Claus Wiese.

Births: Mark Allen and Marlene Ann Bean, Sandra Lynn MacKay.

Death: Mrs. Nina Goodnow Kelley.

60 years ago: Miss Elizabeth Mason was reportedly uninjured when her car left the road and turned over on Route 108 near Canton.

Robert Hastings had returned from Chicago where he attended the National Farm Bureau Federation meetings.

The Bear River Juvenile Grange sponsored a Christmas Dance at the Newry Corner Grange Hall.

Birth: Danna Eileen Brown.

Death: Donald N. Sweeney.

70 years ago: Howard Shaw's orchestra furnished music for the Alumni Jamboree at William Bingham Gym.

A system of warnings for civilian defense was being perfected. D. Grover Brooks was chief air raid warden.

Richard Davis had a sawmill in operation at East Bethel.

Deaths: Mrs. Inez Cummings, Mrs. Arvilla Wilson, Ashman Ladd.

80 years ago: Measles was prevalent.

Miss Methel Packard went to Useppa Island, Fla., for the winter.

90 years ago: Mrs. Irvin French attended State Grange at Portland.

The new building of the Mt. Zircon Spring Water Company was completed.

100 years ago: Twelve inches of snow fell on Dec. 14.

The prices for pigs on Birch Hill were low.

Andover defeated the Bethel team at Gould Academy in basketball 28-9.

Pleasant Valley Grange in West Bethel held a fair, chicken pie supper and dance to dedicate their new hall.

Death: Horace Foster

110 years ago: A bouquet of pansies was picked in Dr. Gehring's garden on Dec. 15.

Two days of heavy rain washed away bridges, flooded roads, stalled trains and made genuine havoc.

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Utility

Continued from page 1

it would take to render our municipal utility insolvent. Some of us are old enough to remember the gasoline wars of decades past.

"3. We are advised that the State of Maine might seek to discourage the formation of such a risky municipal utility, out of concern that it might have to bail out the town should it fail. We can only imagine what forms this discouragement might take.

"4. We doubt that the town would vote to back the necessary municipal bond with the full faith and credit of the town, given that the risk would be assumed by the entire town and that the major benefits of having natural gas would accrue only to part of the citizenry."

Private utility

The committee, however, concludes the report by noting that none of the factors it cites would have a similar effect on a private gas utility, especially one set up and financed by the three "anchor customers" mentioned above, "for they would be committed to converting to natural gas from the outset and to sticking with it. Those anchor customers may or may not choose to consider this idea, but we feel that our committee's mandate does not include promoting this idea."

Bethel Town Manager Jim Doar said Tuesday that the idea of a municipal natural-gas utility is now effectively dead.

Garner

Continued from page 1

He also accuses the committee of being unduly risk averse.

"The town deserves fighters, not using the fear of an imagined, potential, theoretical price war as a means of ducking hard work," Garner writes.

He concludes with a quotation from the 18th century statesman and philosopher Edmund Burke: "There is a sort of enthusiasm in all projectors, absolutely necessary for their affairs, which makes them proof against the most fatiguing delays, the most mortifying disappointments, the most shocking insults; and, what is severer than all, the presumptuous judgment of the ignorant upon their designs."

Briefly

Berlin prison is now hiring

BERLIN, N.H.— After finally receiving the funding it needs to open, the Berlin Federal Prison is now accepting applications from local residents for a variety of prison jobs including correctional officers and registered nurses, according to a press release from Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH). Berlin Prison will employ 329 people, with 201 of those jobs being local hires. More than half of the local hires will be correctional officers. The positions that have been posted to date are: unit secretary, cook supervisor, correctional case manager, electrical foreman, gardener supervisor, maintenance worker foreman, materials handler supervisor, physician assistant, plumbing worker supervisor, registered nurses, and correctional officers. Positions will be updated often by the Bureau of Prisons. All positions can be found at usajobs.gov; www.usajobs.gov or in New Hampshire Employment Security's Job Match System: https://nhworksjobmatch.nhes.nh.gov. Applications for correctional officer positions may be submitted any time and applications will be reviewed beginning in late February or early March. To apply for the federal positions an online application must be completed on usajobs.gov; www.usajobs.gov. For more information about the information sessions, or the application workshops, please contact Tamara Allen, White Mountain Community College, at (603) 752-1113 x3062 or taallen@ccsnh.edu. For more information about specific jobs, please contact Diana Nelson, New Hampshire Employment Security, at diana.s.nelson@nhes.nh.gov.

Download Library online in Bethel

BETHEL—The Bethel Library is now part of the Maine InfoNet Download Library, which has thousands of downloadable books. This means that library patrons can now download free e-books and audio books using their e-book readers or other devices. There are dozens of different devices (such as Nook and Kindle) that can be used. The Bethel Library does not currently have a web page, but patrons can go to http://download.maineinfonet.org and click on Quick Start Guide. Once set up, all patrons need to do is click on My Account, click on the Bethel Library, and then log-in their patron ID number (library card number). Patrons do not need to come to the library to download books. The library will be closed for the holidays on Sat., Dec. 24, Sun., Dec. 25, and Mon., Dec. 26. Over the New Year's weekend, the library will be closed Sat., Dec. 31, Sun., Jan.1, and Mon., Jan. 2, 2012.

CORRECTION

Wrong speaker on bicycling clientele. The fourth-from-last paragraph in last week's story on possible uses for the Bingham land parcel should have reported that John Harvey returned the conversation to mountain biking. And it was Harvey who described the cyclists as "so nice, and they're loaded."

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Rack of Lamb
A full rack of New Zealand Lamb Served with Garlic, Rosemary Demiglaze
$28
Maine Lobster
A Steamed 1½ lb. Maine Lobster Served with Drawn Butter
$26
Stuffed Sole
Crab & Scallop Stuffed Sole Topped with Bearnaise Sauce
$18
Atlantic Salmon
Fresh East Coast Salmon rubbed with our Smokey Spice Blend and Shallow Poached
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DESSERTS
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Grilled Oysters on the Half Shell - served with Mignonette and cocktail sauce
Timballo di Zucchine - Baked Zucchini Stuffed with Fresh Mozzarella, Roma Tomato & Oregano
SOUP OR SALAD
Zuppa di Cipolline Arrosti - soup of roasted Onions, Sherry & Sage on Toasted Bread with Smoked Mozzarella & Parmigiano-Reggiano
Meneste - Italian Peasant soup with Escarole, White Cannellini Beans, Italian Sausage and Roasted Garlic
SALADS
Grilled Hearts of Romaine with Limoncello dressing-topped with shaved parmesan
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ENTREES
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Pork Saltimbocca - tenderloin topped with Parma Pruscuitto, fresh sage and imported Provolone served with a veal jus
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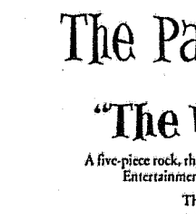
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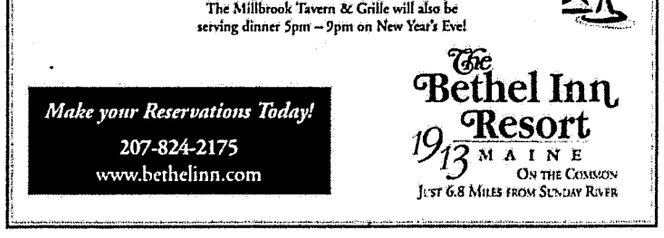
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Christmas For Children
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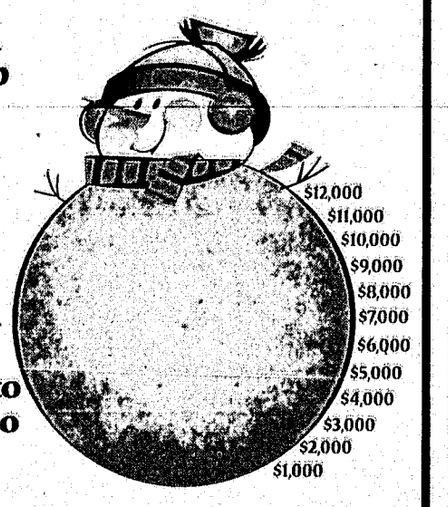
To be used to purchase toys for needy boys & girls in our community.
A Big THANK YOU to everyone who generously made a contribution!


Bethel Rotary Club
Christmas for Children

Find us on the web
www.bethelcitizen.com

Newry

Continued from page 1

wetlands and designated habitats, for the purpose of obtaining and sharing information relating to their protection, development or use."

Wight said the commission would be a group interested in habitat, conservation and open space issues. Instead of the town and its Planning Board just looking at where subdivisions would be, he said, the commission could serve the function of looking at "where we don't want development. We would bring it up to selectmen, and the selectmen could then bring it to the town meeting, and see if the town wanted to accept whatever the proposal was." The commission would have no regulatory authority or ability to create ordinances, he said.

But many were still suspicious of the motives behind the proposal.

Said one woman, "What's disturbing to me about this is we already have a lot of regulations. This seems to give the committee permission to come on our land without our permission, in order to feed back information that's going to make more regulations on already-regulated land."

Wight said no one would go on property without permission.

Another resident questioned the knowledge of those who might gather information. He asked if they would be trained in science or land management. "I very much doubt their credibility," he said.

But Wight said citizens had conducted such inventories in the past, citing an erosion-control project inventory. "There's nothing technical that anyone would be asked to do," he said.

Roger Wheeler questioned the need for a standing committee, arguing that interested citizens could get to together as needed, when issues arose. And, he said, "I don't notice any polluted water, destroyed wetlands, or endangered habitat."

Replied Wight, "The trick is to do it before you have a problem."

Alan Fleet wondered if the Planning Board was having a problem locating deer yards as it reviewed subdivision projects. Deer, he said, "used to yard up on the whole back side" of one hillside development, but "it's gotten to be full of houses."

'NO' TO NCC—Keith Durgin (rear right, with hand slightly raised), a large landowner in Newry, argues against the formation of a Newry Conservation Commission at Monday's special town meeting. He said he supported conservation, but much land in town is already protected, and he wanted his rights preserved. The 81 voters present overwhelmingly defeated the proposal. *(Photo: A. Alosio)*

Planning Board Chairman Brooks Morton said his board goes by maps provided by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and if such yards are not on the maps, "we can't enforce it."

"The state doesn't have a lot of things listed," replied Fleet. "That's why there are not a lot of deer yards anymore."

As an example of another potential function of commissions, Wight noted that the Bethel Conservation Commission is currently playing a role in gathering information to aid the town in deciding how best to use the 2,300-acre former Bingham Trust Land.

But Attorney Jarrod Crockett of Bethel, who serves on the Bethel commission, said, "We don't have the same authority as what you're proposing here.

"All we are is advisory. Any public hearings held were because the selectmen mandated on each issue."

With the Newry proposal, he said, "there is a question, because it's an ordinance, whether it allows somebody on private land. The case can be made that someone could enter on your private land to do mapping. Somebody could go underneath your apple tree and see four deer every fall, and call it whatever they want to. I'm a conservation supporter, and I believe in this. But I wouldn't vote for that."

When the vote was taken, only a handful supported it.

Unsigned 'info' sheet

A week before the meeting, an information sheet making arguments against the commission was distributed at the annual Christmas party organized by the Fire Department and town officials.

No one signed the paper, but some residents said they believed it came from out-of-towners.

Among the points made was one that stated "private landowners will not continue to keep their lands available for snowmobiling, ATV riding and other uses if additional regulations keep getting added and the state keeps closing their own land holdings."

Wight said similar arguments were made in Greenwood several years ago when that town considered regulating ridgeline development.

The sheet also said that during the development of the Newry ordinance proposal, not all members of the advisory committee appointed by selectmen were told of meetings after the initial one.

At Monday's meeting, committee member Bob Lowell said he had not been notified after the first meeting.

When Wight replied he had had trouble finding him, the crowd laughed.

Wight said he had first e-mailed Lowell at home, then at his business, and then came and talked to him about it. After that, said Wight, "I assumed you weren't interested in it."

Lowell said he had not received e-mails at work.

Other committee members were Brooks Morton, Susan Herlihy, Dave Bonney and Suzanne Pierce.

Other items

Voters also rejected a proposal to lower to $1,000 the cost threshold for home projects that triggers the requirement to obtain a building permit.

Instead they elected to maintain the current thresholds at $25,000 for an improvement project, and $2,500 for new construction, out of concern that even relatively small projects can quickly reach those ranges.

The increases were proposed to include more property value in the tax base. Town officials had said many smaller projects, such as those at Sunday River and at second homes, are overlooked by the tax assessor because the town is unaware of them.

Without that information and added value, CEO Dave Bonney said recently, the taxes of other residents are going up.

Voters also approved a new commercial wind-project section for the town's ordinance. Such projects would be restricted to the Resort Development District (Sunday River).

Town officials considered including the General Development District also, but it is located in the town's two valleys and would be impractical, they said.

Also approved were changes to allow the Planning Board to request a pre-application hearing with applicants for major subdivision and site plan review projects.

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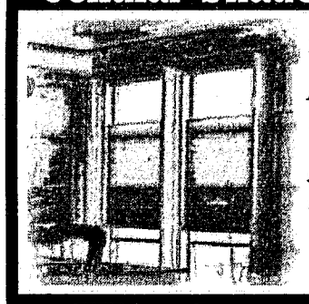
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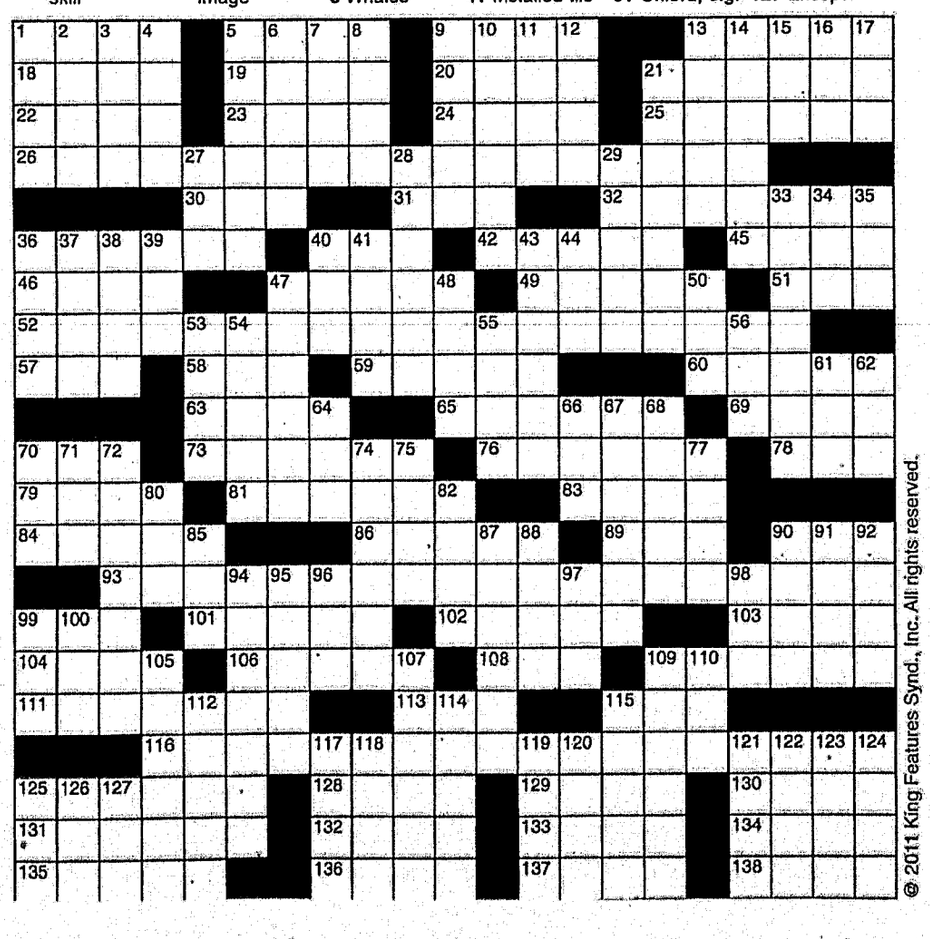
ACROSS
1 Forum wear
5 Wolf gang?
9 Drive the getaway car
13 Positive thinker
18 Lipinski leap
19 Deejay Freed
20 Interoffice communique
21 Hickman or Strawberry
22 Canadian coin
23 Ordinary
24 "Trinity" author
25 Kind of paint
26 Start of a remark by Don Marquis
30 Narcs' org.
31 "Agnus —"
32 Cinema sled
36 Lineman's tool
40 Seville shout
42 Renown
45 Debut recording
46 Atmosphere
47 Discontinue
49 Sharpens a skill
51 Choose, with "for"
52 Part 2 of remark
57 Cartoon canine
58 Part 3 of remark
59 Delany and Wynter
60 Time of your life
63 Head line?
65 Susann or Shakespeare
69 Entreaty
70 Mrs. Eddie Cantor
73 Prom date
76 Gulliver's first name
78 Portly
79 Wattle's partner
81 Speculation
83 Conductor Klemperer
84 Gold brick?
86 Pageant prop
89 Part 4 of remark
90 Sixth sense
93 Part 5 of remark
99 Mellow
101 Studio sign
102 "— Breath You Take" ('83 smash)
103 Computer image
104 Man the bar
106 Belarusian city
108 Cote cutie
109 Bantered
111 November 11th honoree
113 Stirrup site
115 Create a chemise
116 End of remark
125 Monastery bigwigs
128 Tivoli's Villa d'—
129 Neighbor of Can.
130 Concept
131 He had things done by Friday
132 — breve
133 Unusual
134 It's nothing
135 Off the plate
136 Basketball's Willis
137 Black
138 Seth's son

DOWN
1 Baja bite
2 The yoke's on them
3 Passed-on item
4 Choir member
5 Whales
6 Maui greeting
7 Poirot's concern
8 Handle
9 Tickle
10 Wodehouse's Wooster
11 Send out
12 Peter of reggae
13 Dieter's discomfort
14 Cleared the slate
15 Cardigan part
16 Pipe cleaner?
17 Building wing
21 Signifies
27 HST's predecessor
28 Crusader kingdom
29 Persian, presently
33 Early epic
34 Ref
35 Speck
36 Talk-show pioneer
37 Mechanic's offering
38 Pressing need
39 — de Cologne
40 Above, to Arnold
41 Installed tile
43 Unsullied
44 — Gatos, CA
47 Basilica
48 Italian rumbler
50 Diffident
53 Kind
54 Use a toboggan
55 Handle harshly
56 "Alley —"
61 Indian export
62 Toque or topee
64 Piggy
66 Medical grp.
67 Uproar
68 Price twice
70 Infamous Amin
71 Singer Seals
72 Enhance
74 Generator parts
75 Stumble
77 Isolated
80 Tropical snake
82 Connecticut campus
85 Spinks stat
87 Go back
88 "— Good Men" ('92 film)
90 Decorate glass
91 Oxford, e.g.
92 Await judgment
94 As a group
95 Canvas cover?
96 Nuremberg numeral
97 Cinnabar, for instance
98 "— the season . . ."
99 Wilderness trans.
100 "Holy smoke!"
105 Unseat
107 Pot
109 Dairy cow
110 Be obligated
112 Boca —, FL
114 Winning
115 Burning bit
117 Have on
118 Presque —, ME
119 Mata —
120 Dash
121 — up (evaluate)
122 Actress Barbara
123 Sleuth Wolfe
124 New Mexico resort
125 Parker of football
126 It may be padded
127 Except



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Super Crossword "Gift Rap"

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Answers on Back Page.

DEC 22 2011

OCSD Bethel Patrol Log

Tuesday, Dec. 13

At 7:18 p.m. a caller reported gas being taken from a vehicle while his son was c..ching a game at a school. Deputy Mike Halacy was assigned.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

At 7:35 a.m. Deputies George Cayer and Mike Halacy responded to Vernon Street for a report of a vehicle on its side, There were no injuries.

At noon a report was received of a possible theft of fuel on Davis Street. Sgt. Tim Holland was investigating.

At 1:13 p.m. a caller reported threats made to family members from a subject who lives out of state. Deputy George Cayer was assigned.

At 5:14 p.m. a caller reported that while he was at a business on the Mayville Road someone keyed his vehicle. Sgt. Tim Holland was assigned.

Friday, Dec. 16

At 11:23 a.m. a report was received of a driver pulled over to the side of the road on the Walkers Mills Road, and people following her stopped to make sure she didn't drive off because her driving was so poor. Deputy Dennis Ryder responded. An adverse driving report was sent to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

At 1:24 p.m. Deputy Dennis Ryder and Sheriff Wayne Gallant responded to the West Bethel Road for a verbal dispute. One subject left the residence.

At 2:42 p.m. on the Parkway Deputy Dennis Ryder arrested Joseph W. Patenaude, 22, of Bethel on a warrant for failure to appear. He was later bailed from the Bethel substation.

At 6:50 p.m. a report was received of a vehicle on the Sunday River Road being operated by an intoxicated subject. Deputy Matt Noyes responded. The intoxicated subject was the passenger, not the operator.

At 10:06 p.m. a caller on Main Street reported an unwanted subject. Deputies Matt Noyes and George Cayer responded. The subject had left, but was located and issued a criminal trespass warning.

At 11:26 p.m. on Eden Lane Deputy Matt Noyes arrested Adam Dumont, 26, of Albany for failure to stop for a law enforcement officer.

Saturday, Dec. 17

At 9:54 p.m. on Route 26 Deputy Matt Noyes stopped a vehicle for a defect and subsequently summonsed Michael Whitney, 25, of Lewiston for civil possession of marijuana.

At 10:15 p.m. on Route 2 Deputy George Cayer arrested Charles H. Dresser, 26, on an outstanding warrant for failure to pay a fine.

Sunday, Dec. 18

At 1:13 a.m. at the intersection of Route 2 and the Parkway Deputy Dennis Ryder arrested Corey H. Ruane, 21, of Newburyport, Mass. for OUI.

At 9:26 a.m. a subject reported to Deputy Dennis Ryder that he had been assaulted at a school the night before by a subject.

Monday, Dec. 19

At 8:49 a.m. a complainant on Main Street reported he had had three vehicles drive over his lawn during the past two weekends. Deputy Dennis Ryder was assigned.

At 1:05 p.m. a West Bethel Road business reported ongoing fuel theft and criminal mischief.

Oxford County Jail:

(Bethel region)

Dec. 17, 10:09 p.m.: Charles H. Dresser, 26, of Bethel, criminal mischief; by Deputy George Cayer on Route 2 in Bethel.

Dec. 17, 11:52 p.m.: Adam Dumont, 26, of Albany, failure to stop for an officer; by Deputy Matt Noyes on Eden Lane in Bethel.

UPDATE ON CHARGE: A log entry on July 15 of this year listed a charge against Ransom Cole for operating an unregistered motor vehicle. The charge was dismissed in Oxford County Superior Court on Sept. 19, according to court records.

AWD

Continued from page 1

sible statute violations.

Background

Last year the AWD sold the Stony Brook reservoir land, which had not been used for years, for $250,000.

The board believed that because the land was no longer a source of water ("water resource land"), it did not need to notify its ratepayers or the town.

The board then quickly moved to spending significant amounts of the money on improvements to the AWD system.

Following the sale, Andover residents Sid Pew and Brian Mills filed a complaint with the PUC, saying the town should have been given the right of first refusal.

Since then the case has been working its way through commission procedure.

The PUC has so far determined the land still qualified as water resource, and the ratepayers and town should have had input in the decision on its future use.

Public Advocate

On Dec. 9 Attorney William Black of the Maine Public Advocate's Office, which represents the interests of AWD ratepayers, issued a comment paper for consideration by the PUC.

"It appears that the trustees of the Water District first made the mistake of determining that the Stony Brook property was not 'water resource land,' Black wrote. "Then, the Water District deliberately made the decision to use the proceeds as soon as possible.

"[AWD Board Chair] Kevin Scott explained that the Water District's decision to disburse the money promptly would be in the interests of ratepayers.

"However, it appears that the effect of the Water District's decisions to act so precipitously has also been to increase its legal expenses — which ultimately will be paid by the same set of ratepayers that the Water District sought to serve."

(Scott was asked last week what the AWD's legal fees total on this case. He said the AWD lawyer had barred the board from discussing it.)

Pew said Monday he and Mills had filed a request under the Freedom of Access Act to find out who was paying the AWD's legal fees and whether the AWD has liability insurance, but the request was denied by the AWD attorney.

Black also wrote that "surprisingly, Mr. Scott went so far as to state that the PUC 'clearly' does not have the authority to make the determination whether a particular parcel water district land qualifies as 'water resource land.'"

Black also wrote in his comments that it was difficult to determine what actions the PUC might take "to remedy the Water District's failure to honor the rights both of its customers and of the town that it serves."

He went on to say that while the sale money could not be recovered "to satisfy any claims the Town of Andover might make," the PUC should take steps to make sure such circumstances do not happen again, either for AWD or any other water district.

He suggests a order that "makes it clear that when a water district is proposing to sell land, it should file a request in writing as to whether that land might be considered "water resource land," and that the water district should not go forward with the sale," unless it satisfied statute requirements.

Town attorney comments

Last week a letter to selectmen from Andover Town Attorney N. Joel Moser said Black had told him the Advocate's office would oppose a monetary penalty on the AWD, because the district is ratepayer-owned.

And, said Moser, "There also is no guarantee that any penalty would be turned over to the town rather than assessed to the Commission."

After considering the letter, selectmen decided to take no action, according to Chair Susan Merrow.

The next PUC step regarding the case will be a technical conference, expected to take place in January.

Insurance?

Pew said Monday he and Mills had filed a request under the Freedom of Access Act to find out who was paying the AWD's legal fees and whether the AWD has liability insurance, but the request was denied by the AWD attorney.

In addition, they asked in a Dec. 9 filing with the PUC that the commission report any statute violations to the Attorney General "and also ask that the Commission request that the Attorney General inquire into the possible violations of Title 35-A and of Title 17-A [which address public utility and misuse of entrusted property issues, respectively]."

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Stuffed Haddock $23
Fresh haddock stuffed with scallops, crabmeat and shrimp.

Veal Marsala $24
Veal medallions sautéed with mushrooms and Marsala wine in a light brown sauce over a bed of linguini.

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Tues., Dec. 27 JIM GALLANT	*Wed., Dec. 28* DENNY BREAU

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Bethel

By NANCY BROWN

The Bethel Early Learning Center has chosen Responsible Pet Care as this year's Christmas Charity. Children at the learning center are collecting gifts to donate to the shelter which is located in Norway. This wonderful, no-kill shelter provides medical care, food, and shelter for kittens, cats, puppies, and dogs until they are adopted. Among items needed are kitty and cat food, puppy and dog food, litter, bleach, and towels. This project is teaching children about the shelter and what they can do to help care for and find homes for homeless animals. Donations can be dropped off at the Learning Center, which is next door to the Casablanca Cinema in Bethel.

The fifth-grade students at Crescent Park School are selling Little Caesars Pizza Kits to raise money for their Boston field trip in the spring. The kits will be available to pick up on Jan. 25. If you'd like to contribute by buying a Pizza Kit, talk to any fifth-grade student at CPS or call Heather Speakman at 393-7673. You can get more information about the Pizza Kits by visiting Little Caesars' website at www.PizzaKit.com or calling (888) 452-5487.

Nancy Driscoll, a member of the Bethel Senior Citizens group, has knit 50 pairs of mittens for children at the Woodstock Elementary School and 50 pairs of mittens for students at the Crescent Park School in Bethel. She needs donations of yarn so she can knit more mittens for children this year. She can use any kind of yarn. If you have yarn to donate, you can bring it to the next Senior Citizens meeting, which will take place at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2012, at the Bethel United Methodist Church on Main Street.

The Bethel Library will be closed for the holidays on Saturday, Dec. 24, Sunday, Dec. 25, and Monday, Dec. 26. Over the New Year's weekend, the library will be closed Saturday, Dec. 31, Sunday, Jan.1, and Monday, Jan. 2, 2012.

If you have holiday news you'd like to share, please send it to nancybrown1150@yahoo.com or call me at 824-2483.

East Bethel

By WALLY RITZ

The kids are counting the days till Christmas and the excitement is growing. The last few days have been quite cold, yet it looks like there won't be any snow on the ground for the Holidays.

Since my last writing there have been some birthday celebrations. On Dec. 16 my daughter Samantha celebrated her 30th birthday, and we all shared a nice dinner and cake together. On Dec. 18 Eva Coolidge celebrated her 61st birthday, and Jason and Bekah cooked the birthday dinner for her. Later Tina, Brian, Corey and Taylor joined them for cake and ice cream. Belated Happy Birthday to both celebrants from the neighborhood. Esther Crockett held her annual Crockett Christmas Party on Saturday. More than 20 family members were in attendance, with the youngest, Sawyer Newton, 3 months old, being introduced to the rest of the family. Expectant moms Theresa and Paige were showing off their baby bellies and their excitement for their babes on the way. As usual, Esther had games and prizes for the little ones and enough food to feed a small army. Paul Kimball told me that Jimmy and Kristin came from North Berwick to attend Esther's party and headed back on Sunday.

Please call 824-3220 or e-mail han@megalink.net to tell me all about your Holiday or with any other news you would like to share.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and may it be filled with lots of love and joy.

Andover

By JANE RICH

Christmas Eve is a magical time for all of us. Somehow the lights seem brighter and if we're fortunate enough to have soft falling snow, most of us feel like we are in the center of a gorgeous Christmas card. None of this "magic" would have happened without the birth of Jesus to celebrate. People around the world in small and large churches will come together on Dec. 24 to light candles, sing well-known hymns and relive that event of over two thousand years ago.

Church services in Andover will be at the Calvary Bible Church at 6:30 p.m. and Christmas morning services will be at 10:45 a.m. Meanwhile you may also attend a traditional candlelight service with a nativity pageant at the First Congregational Church (church on the common) at 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve which will be followed by a reception in the CEB. Christmas Day the service will be at 10:00 a.m. featuring the classic nine lessons and carols, a service that his been performed in many churches since the 1800s.

The Andover Library is announcing a change of hours Christmas week. The library will be closed on Saturday, Christmas Eve, but will be open for lucky vacationers Monday, Dec. 26 from 1 to 4:30 p.m.. Stop by and enter to win the free raffle for a Hannaford gift card and cookbook. The raffle will run through March and is free to all library patrons. Enter each time you visit. Congratulations to the winner of the Open House Day poinsettia raffle, Charles Cameron of Roxbury.

The Andover Town Office will be closed on Monday, Dec. 26, as well as Monday, Jan. 2. The Andover Transfer Station will be closed on Sunday, Dec. 25, but will open instead on Monday, Dec. 26.

Sympathy is being extended to the family of Joan (Campbell) Wallman who passed away on Dec. 12 in Randolph, Vermont. Joan's joy and cheerfulness were such a wonderful gift to all of us who knew her. She will be missed. Her parents were Graydon and Dorothy Campbell and she was born in the schoolhouse turned home, where her mother spent summers and she often visited.

Snowmobile Club President Dick Merrill reports that the grant the group applied for to fix ITS 82 East which would include three new bridges has been received and is now being reviewed. The club met recently with 35 people present at a pot luck supper where the winner of the 50/50 in the amount of $256 was announced. Larry Bonney was the lucky owner of the winning ticket. The next meeting will be Jan. 4 at the club house.

The town clerk announces the following important information for residents. Dog license's are due Dec. 31. The fee is $6 for a neutered or spayed dog. $11 for a dog capable of producing young. Please bring proof of rabies vaccination, and proof that the dog has been neutered or spayed. Any dog who has reached the age of 6 months shall be registered according to state law.

Nomination papers will be available on Tuesday Dec 27 for the following town elected positions all are for a three year term: Town clerk; tax collector, fire chief, school

Area Christmas/Holiday Services

Bethel

Bethel Alliance Church: Dec. 24- 7 p.m., Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Dec. 25- Christmas Worship Service 10 a.m.

West Parish Congregational: Dec. 24- Family Service with scripture, drama and bells, 4 p.m.; Candlelight Service of lessons and carols with special choir music, 7 p.m. Dec. 25- Christmas Communion, 10 a.m.

Our Lady of the Snows Chapel: Dec. 24- Christmas Mass, 6 p.m.

Bethel Nazarene Church: Dec. 31- New Year's Eve Concert with Fred Merrill, 6 p.m.

Libby's just wants to have FUN!
New Year's Eve Party
2012
Mingle from 9pm until after midnight around
Chef attended food stations full of
classic Libby's culinary delights.
Live music with Randy Messino, dance & countdown with
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Libby's Bistro & SAALT Pub, Gorham NH Tickets $40 pp limited quantities.
To reserve call 466-5330 or pre-purchase at SaVoir Flare in Berlin

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We Wish You A Very Merry Christmas
Open Christmas Eve
6:00 AM to 6:00 PM
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Thanking You For 19 Years

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Spectacular circus skills, ridiculous physical comedy, and spontaneous audience interaction. Brent's work has been called fabulous, funny, and amazing by audiences everywhere.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29
Roderick Russell - Stage Hypnotist
Easily the most hilarious type of entertainment you'll ever witness - or be a part of - the hypnosis stage show makes you and your friends the stars of the show.
7pm at the Grand Summit Resort Hotel. Children 5 and under free; 12 and under $4 in advance, $6 at the door; adults 13 and over $6 in advance, $8 at the door. Advance tickets for shows are available at the Welcome Center, Resort Hotels, or by calling 800-543-2754.

DEC 22 2011

board representative, road commissioner, and selectman, assessor, overseer of the Poor.

A personal thank you to all of you who have sent cards, brought food and especially to those two people who helped me with my groceries when I just thought I couldn't do another thing. You know who you are.

Gilead

By LIN CHAPMAN

It doesn't seem possible that Christmas will be here this weekend. Merry Christmas to all!

My brother, Steve McLain, was at the house this past weekend. He said that Lise is feeling much better after being ill for several days this past week.

Major Stephen McLain, III, who is stationed in the country of Norway, called his parents, Steve and Lise McLain, last Sunday. Besides checking in with them, he wanted them to know that they should be expecting a package for Christmas. He also emailed his latest military photo.

Hugh and I finally got a chance at the end of last week to mail out a package to Chris, Kym and Mariyah in St. Cloud, MN.

Hugh and I had an overnight guest last weekend. Our granddaughter, Sidney Chapman, spent last Saturday night at the house. She is such a nice houseguest. She and Grampa decided to bake a cake and Grammy 'volunteered' to do the frosting. Delicious! She finished wrapping up her Christmas presents and was ready when Mom and Dad picked her up Sunday afternoon. She was on her way to see Santa Claus in Berlin with her other grandparents, Leo and Ann Croteau. She put on her new Christmas earrings and was going to get all dressed up for Santa.

After Sidney left, Hugh and I headed for Bethel to meet up with Jon and Elena Martin, Greg Martin and Ben Chapman at Rooster's Roadhouse for lunch. They were planning on visiting and spending the night with Jon's brother and wife, Jeff and Kate Martin of Albany Township. Ben decided to spend the night at our house and visit a little bit more. He will be headed back to Georgia in January after his break is over. Next year he will be a little closer to home at the Coast Guard Academy in Connecticut.

Gilead Historical Society

Mary Tyler was at the house Saturday with the almost final draft of the calendar. Orders are starting to come in for the calendars. Member price (preorder) for the calendar is $8, and non-member price is $10. The GHS will be taking names with birthdays and anniversaries of anyone who purchases a calendar to be placed on the calendar. Calendars may be purchased without adding any information, also. There will be twelve different pictures of buildings that are no longer standing in Gilead. Members have received an order form in their fall newsletter, but contact Lin at 836-2987 or email chapmal@hotmail.com (subject GHS calendars) if you are not a member and would like to order one. Membership to the GHS is $10 or $5 for seniors.

Got any news? Call 836-2987 or email chapmal@hotmail.com

Hanover

By CLEM WORCESTER

Here is the holiday schedule for this weekend and next weekend. The Hanover Town Office will be open the rest of the week and closed Saturday, Sunday and Monday, Dec. 24, 25 and 26. The following week the Town Office will be open Tuesday through Friday and will be closed Dec. 31, Jan. 1 and 2. Remember to pay your taxes by Dec. 30 to take advantage of the 2 percent discount. Pay for your dog license before the end of December. If you are planning to fish or hunt in 2012, better get a new license before the end of the year.

Gardner Roberts Memorial Library will be closed until Jan. 4. After that the library will be open on Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Saturday it will be open 9 a.m. to noon until spring.

Gardner Roberts Memorial Library has accepted the gift of three framed photos of the library. Andrew Bear of A and A Bear Photography of Hanover presented them. Two pictures will be displayed at the library. The third picture will be at the Hanover Town Office in conjunction with a bulletin board. The bulletin board will be for library news, events and new book listings. Anyone wishing a new book can post it there and the library folks will order it.

WiFi service will remain available at Gardner Roberts Memorial Library throughout the winter. Remember, also, there is a container on the library porch for recyclable cans and bottles.

The Hanover Board of Select Persons met Dec.13 for their monthly meeting. The Board expressed pleasure for the good turnout of citizens for the tree lighting and social gathering. It was said that everyone had a good time. The Board discussed upcoming appointments and possible vacancies coming up in 2012. The Board will try to schedule a meeting with the Planning Board and CEO to discuss the Maine Building Code.

The Central Maine Power Company was busy last week installing the new "smart" meters at homes in Hanover. When they become operational in May, 2012, the power usage will be transmitted directly to CMP, but until then meter readers will continue monthly visits to record power usage.

A lot of events took place during 2011. What story had the greatest impact on the local area? If you have an idea let me know while I look through a year's worth of columns. We will let everyone know next week.

Is there a Santa Claus? One might wonder where the Christmas Spirit has gone this year. Nighttime lights are not nearly as numerous or bright as past years. Hopefully the rest of us will get the Christmas Spirit by Sunday. Thanks, veterans, for the wreaths displayed at Hanover Cemetery.

As Gardner Roberts Librarian Peggy Susbury put it, "Happy Holidays and thank you for all your support during 2011." We concur.

THE DISTRICT EXCHANGE Friday hosted a celebration of its new location at Bethel Park on Mason Street. The building is located on the grounds of Bethel Park Apartments, and the space was donated by Rosa Scarcelli, owner of Stanford Management, which manages the complex. "This space was crying out for a use," she said at the gathering. Here, Cathy Newell (center left), a member of the board that oversees the Exchange, speaks. Scarcelli is just to the right of Newell, in the background. The Exchange moved during the fall from its longtime location at the Ethel Bisbee School building when SAD 44 closed the building. Proceeds from the sale of used clothing go to the Bethel Area Food Pantry, located at the Bethel Nazarene Church. Scarcelli said Stanford is donating $1,000 to the pantry. Teams drawn from 25 volunteers operate the District Exchange on Mondays, 1-4 p.m., Thursday, 4-6 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Clothing donations are also taken then. Newell said the board hope to offer additional hours after the holidays. *(Photo: A. Aloisio)*

Upton

By JOE BERNIER

Laurie and Bob Brown entertained thirty family members and friends at their home Saturday evening, Dec. 17. Thanks guys we had a great time.

The Ladies Aid will start serving breakfast again Sunday, Jan. 1. Their next meeting will be Jan. 6.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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December 19, 2011 - December 24, 2011
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Fresh Lobster and Clams are available.
Must be Pre-ordered and Pre-paid on Monday & Tuesday
Pick-up will be Thursday afternoon or Friday
Homemade Cannoli's available for the holidays

Pre-Cooked Pot Roast 7# avg	$4.99 lb.	Pork Butts-pulled pork 7# avg	$2.29 lb.
Thick Ham Steaks	$3.25 lb.	Cooked Ribs	$5.50 lb.
Smoked Shoulder 8# average	$1.59 lb.	Extra Lean Hamburg (85/15)	$3.00 lb.
Ground Pork (5# bags frozen)	$2.25 lb.	Rib-eye Hand Carved	$5.79 lb.
Sirloin Strip Steak	$5.50 lb.	Center Cut Boneless Pork	$2.49 lb.
Rump Steak	$4.99 lb.	Stew Beef	$3.89 lb.
Sirloin Tips	$3.89 lb.	Raw Babyback Ribs (pork)	$4.89 lb.
Boneless Chicken Breast	$1.99 lb.	Bone-in Breasts	$1.39 lb.
Bone-in Chicken Thighs	$1.29 lb.	Boneless Beef Shortribs	$5.50 lb.
6# Chicken Roasters	$1.25 lb.	Chicken Leg 1/4's	$.75 lb.
2# Jumbo Shrimp	$22.00	2# Cooked Shrimp	$15.50
		2# Lobster Meat	$43.00

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JIM'S BUNDLE #1
5# Boneless Pork Chops, 5# Boneless Rib-Eye (Pork Chops and Rib-Eye cut to order), 5# Hamburg, 5# Slab Bacon, 5# Boneless Breast, 1 Flat Jumbo Eggs
All for $79.95
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5# Red Hot Dogs, 5# Hamburg 85/15, 5# Pot Roast, 6# Cello Chicken
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Super Jumbo Eggs (20 Pack) $2.00
Cheese cakes, assorted pies & other desserts available

Genoa Salami	$4.99 lb.
Black Forest Ham	$3.99 lb.
Capocollo	$4.99 lb.
Carolina Turkey Breast	$4.49 lb.
Margherita Stick Pepperoni	$4.79 lb.
Roast Beef	$4.99 lb.
Hormel Boiled Ham	$1.99 lb.
C.V. Cooper Cheese	$4.49 lb.
Cheddar Pepperoni Cheese	$5.59 lb.
Cabot Ex-Sharp Cheese	$5.99 lb.
Provolone Cheese	$3.99 lb.
Orange Cheddar Cheese for slicing	$3.99 lb.
Fresh Italian Bread	$2.50 loaf

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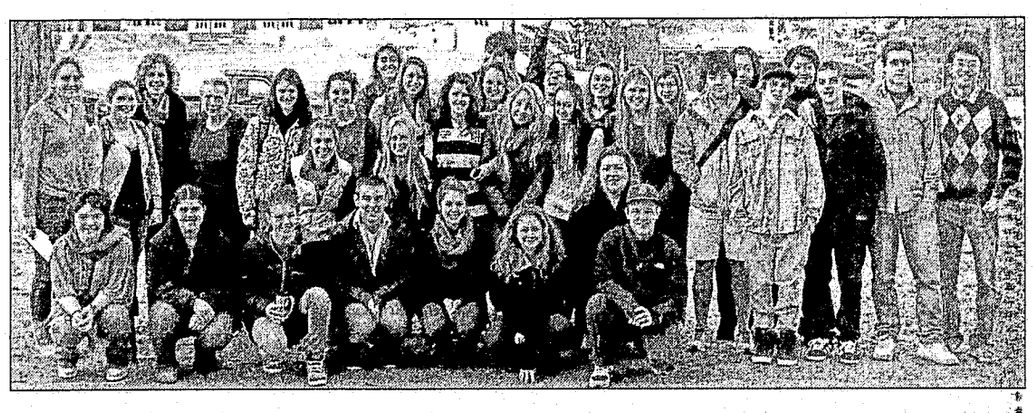
To advertise in this Directory of River Valley area businesses, please contact Nancy Carpenter at ncarpenter@sunjournal.com, (207) 364-8728 Ext 4202 or (800) 872-8728.

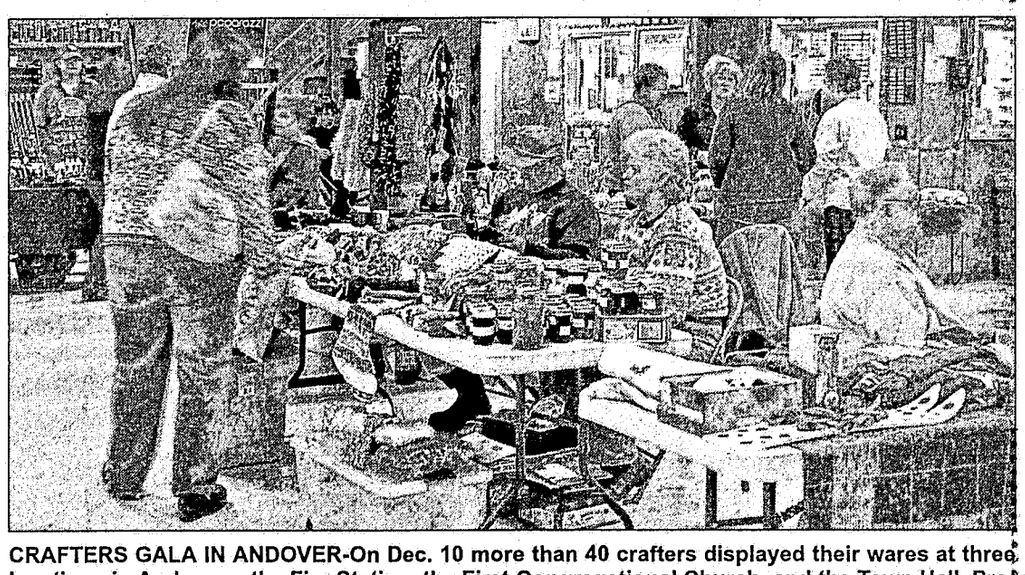
In the spirit of the season

HELPING THE ANIMALS DURING THE HOLIDAYS-The Bethel Early Learning Center chose Responsible Pet Care as this year's Christmas Charity. Children are collecting gifts to donate to the shelter, located in Norway. The no-kill shelter provides medical care, food, and shelter for kittens, cats, puppies, and dogs until they are adopted. Among items needed are kitty and cat food, puppy and dog food, litter, bleach, and towels. The project teaches children about the shelter and what they can do to help care for and find homes for homeless animals. Donations can be dropped off at the Learning Center, next to the Casablanca Cinema. Pictured here with some items collected are, seated, from left: Christine Monzel with Wyatt Scott, Osie Hadden, Nathan Chuga. Standing: Julia Graham, Cooper Potvin, Lucas Barstow, Rosie Barstow, Tanner Banaaciski, Shelis Chuga, Max Merrill, Sitting, Oliver Fredette and Reese Pierce. *(Photo: A. Aloisio)*

REACHOUT AT WORK-More than 40 Gould Academy students have been donating their time to help the Bethel community this school year through a variety of projects organized through the school's REACHOUT effort. A bottle drive raised about $1,500 toward Christmas gifts for a Rumford Group Home located in Norway. In October and November, students held a toy and book drive, and on Halloween some volunteered at Sunday River Ski Resort's Halloween Haunt event, for which they received a donation from the resort. Above, Liam Gillis, James Rambone, Connor Kelly, Clayton Gamble carry gifts as they loaded a bus to take them to the group home last week. The students also conducted a bottle drive for the Bethel Food Pantry, the funds from which were used by the pantry to buy turkeys for Thanksgiving. An annual Cookie Walk, held just before Christmas each year, raises more than $1,000 for the Bethel Rotary's Christmas for Children project. REACHOUT members also took part in a fundraiser for an international benefit. The group's advisors are Erin Parker and Rebecca Andreozzi. Below, a photo of the entire REACHOUT group.

RUMFORD PAPER MILL employees delivered gifts to the Andover Food Pantry for distribution to elderly and children in the local area serviced by the pantry. From left: Sue Mills, pantry coordinators Linda Couture and Kim Perry, Mark Svenson, Kelli Carrier, Tammy Kubesh and Bob Daigle. Employees also delivered gifts to Nina Wheeler's home in Bethel. Nina and her husband brought giving to the area needy to Bethel after being part of a program in Portland, beginning it with their own funding and over the years, sustaining it with donations from various organizations, including the Rumford Paper Mill employees. *(Submitted photo)*





CRAFTERS GALA IN ANDOVER-On Dec. 10 more than 40 crafters displayed their wares at three locations in Andover – the Fire Station, the First Congregational Church, and the Town Hall. Proceeds raised at the Town Hall benefited the Andover Elementary School. Shown here are crafts at the Fire Station. *(Photo: Paula Lee)*

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2011, a Judgment of Foreclosure and Order of Sale was entered by the District Court, District Eleven, Division of Northern Oxford, in an action entitled The Estate of Joseph F. Holman v. Hurchial E. Noyes and Daniel A. Noyes, et., al, under Docket No. RUM-RE-10-73, for the foreclosure of a mortgage loan due from the Hurchial E. Noyes and Daniel A. Noyes to the Estate of Joseph F. Holman, a copy of said Judgment being duly recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds, and,

WHEREAS, the statutory ninety (90) day redemption period has elapsed without redemption by the said Defendants, their successors or assigns;

NOW, THEREFORE, by order of and in execution of said Judgment of Foreclosure and Order of Sale, notice is herby given that there will be sold at public sale at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 27, 2012, at the office of John S. Jenness, Jr., Esq., at 23 Market Square, South Paris, Maine, all and singular the premises described in said Judgment, to wit:

Certain real estate located in the Town of Dixfield, in the County of Oxford and State of Maine, more particularly described as follows:

Being two certain lots or parcels of land situated northerly of Route 2, but not adjacent thereto, in said Town of Dixfield, as described in the Mortgage Deed given by the said Hurchial E. Noyes and Daniel A. Noyes to the said Estate of Joseph F. Holman dated August 24, 2004, which is recorded in the Oxford County registry of Deeds in Book 3575, Page 279, to which reference should be made for a more particular description.

TERMS OF SALE: Pursuant to Title 14 M.R.S.A. §6323, the public sale shall be held not less than thirty (30) days nor more than forty-five (45) days after the first date of publication of this Notice. The Mortgagee shall sell the premises to the highest bidder at the public sale and deliver a deed of such sale to the purchaser, which deed shall convey the premises free and clear of all interest of the parties-in-interest joined in the action. The Mortgagee or any other party-in-interest may bid at the public sale. All bids are to be supported by 10% deposit, except for banks. All deposits are to be made either in cash or by certified check at the time of bidding. Closing on the sale shall occur within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale. All other terms are to be announced at the sale or may be obtained by contacting the Mortgagee through the undersigned attorney for the Mortgagee.

DATED AT PARIS, MAINE, this 10th day of December, 2011

THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH F. HOLMAN
By: John S. Jenness, Jr.
Its Attorney
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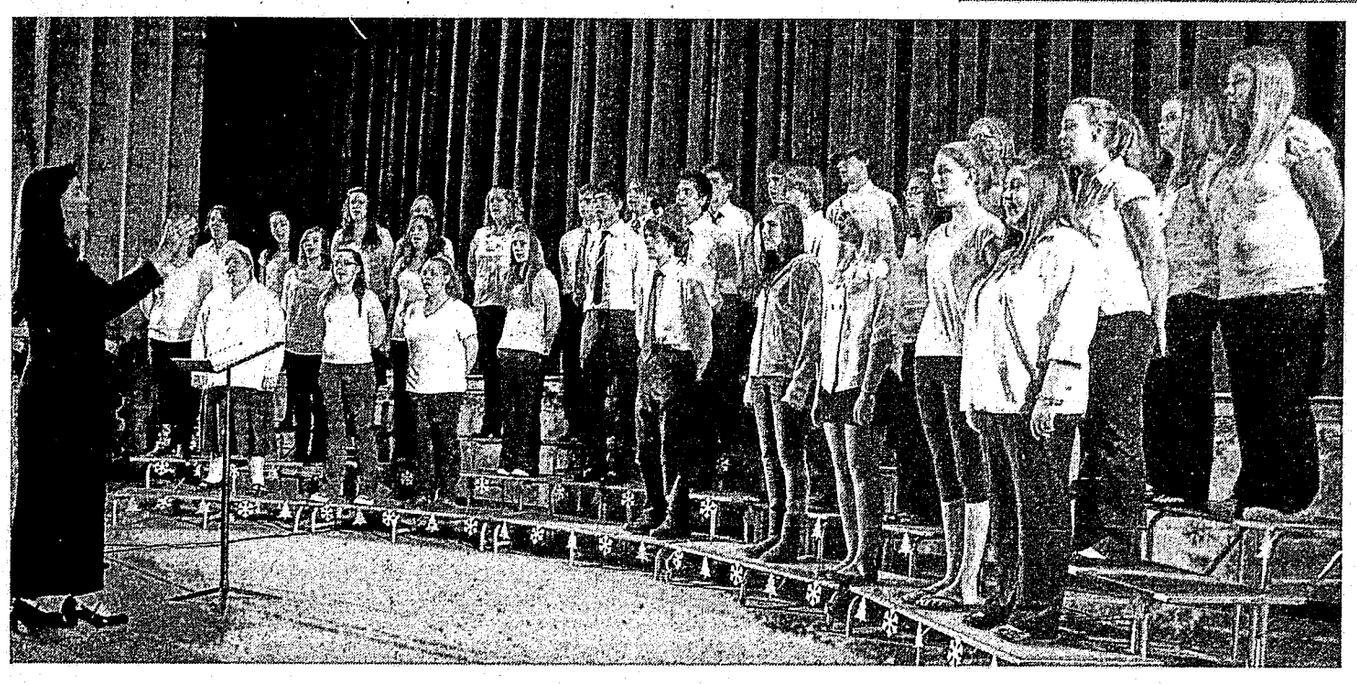
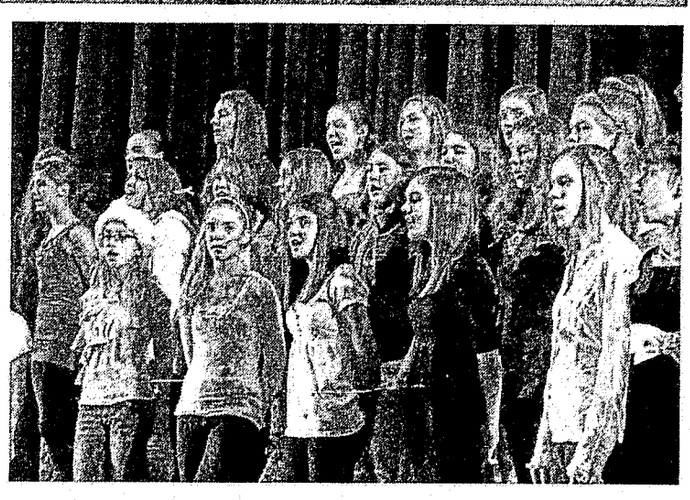
A LIFELONG PROJECT-John Walker, a 13-year-old 8th grader from the Flat Road in West Bethel, has been collecting Christmas decorations since he was a year old. According to his family, he was outside one day and saw a lawn ornament that he called "Ho, Ho", and his collection has grown from there. This year he asked for a gift of an FM transmitter, so when people drive down the Flat Road they can hear Christmas carols while looking at the display. He received the gift early and set it up, and some neighbors have donated extra lights and reindeer. Some of the display is shown here. *(Photo: A. Aloisio)*

POLAR EXPRESS DAY-The first grade classes at Crescent Park School celebrated "Polar Express Day" on Tuesday. Students arrived fully clad in pajamas knowing very little about the activities that had been prepared for them. After a review of the story, "The Polar Express" by Chris Van Allsburg, the kids were treated to golden tickets. The tickets gave them access to hot cocoa and chocolate, a visit with Santa, and a trip around town in the Deep Wood Farm horse-drawn wagon. *(Submitted photo)*





The Telstar High and Middle schools held their annual Winter Concert Tuesday evening, with performances by the choruses and bands from both schools. Left, the high school chorus; above, the TMS chorus. *(Photos: A. Aloisio)*

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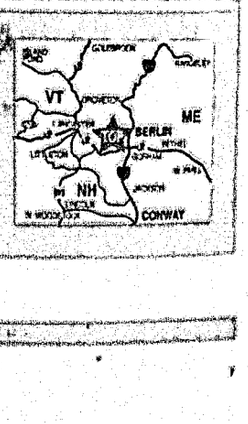


CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

The State Line Snowmobile Club's next meeting should be the first Saturday in January at the Upton House.

The Upton Historical Society is scheduled to meet Jan. 22 at 1 p.m. in the Upton House.

The Upton Planning Board's first meeting for the year will be Friday, Jan. 27, at 6:30 in the town office.

Do not forget town meeting Dec. 29 at 7 p.m. in the school building.

Last Thursday the temperature reached 43 degrees, Sunday morning the temperature was 4 degrees below zero. Maybe winter will show up after all. All we need now is snow.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

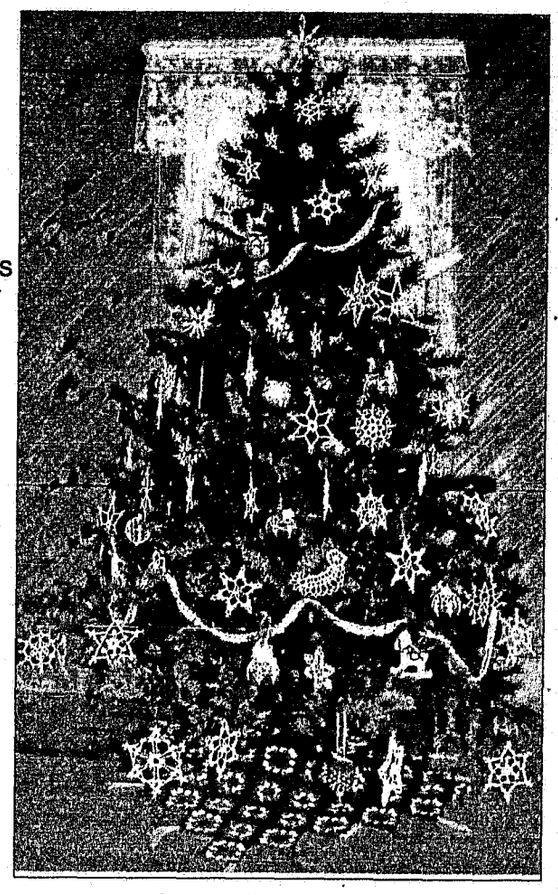
Call 533-2010 or e-mail me at backstjoe@gmail.com with your news.

Locke's Mills

By BETSEY FOSTER

I ran into Al Hamilton at the post office and he said The As Yet to Be Named Banjo Band is looking for new musicians. This fun group of musicians usually has seven or eight folks playing banjos, guitars, keyboard, and other instruments. For varying reasons, they are now down to four members. If you are a banjo picker or some other type of musician and are looking for a fun band, give Al a call at 875-2680.

The Greenwood road crew installed the new "welcome to Greenwood" signs. They look great. These are the signs that say this is the birthplace of LL Bean. This week I was listening to an interview with the author of the recent LL Bean biography. The commentator asked the author "if the town of Greenwood still existed."



WHITE CHRISTMAS IN ALBANY Irene Anderson of Albany has crocheted more than 100 snowflakes for her Christmas tree. *(Photo: A. Aloisio)*

The author assured him it did. I was quite relieved to hear we exist.

This must be the week for surgeries. Get well wishes to Charlie Newell, Rosemary McLean, and Jen Chase.

A final reminder, dog licenses are due at the town office by the end of December. $6 now for a neutered dog, $25 in January.

As of today, we will begin to have a few more moments of light now that the winter solstice has passed. The low angle of the sun is producing some beautiful alpen glow at sunset. Alpen glow is the pink/purple reflection of the settng sun on the eastern hills/mountains. Check out the hills due east of the setting sun and you might see this glow. It is weather-dependent and does not occur every day. You may have to watch for a few days it only lasts for a couple minutes but it is certainly gorgeous.

As a child, and that was quite a long time ago, I thought Christmas was the only holiday at this time of the year. With the years, I've come to realize how many holidays there are during this dark and cold time. Yesterday was the first day of Hannukah and the winter solstice, Sunday is Christmas, and Monday is the first day of Kwanzaa. And that is to name only a few of the holidays and celebrations. Best wishes for whatever you celebrate and peace among all. And, Santa, a delivery of snow would be appreciated!

You can send news to me at 3taichi6@gmail.com

Albany

By CATHY BENNETT

I will try one more time to write this week's news. I got almost done and suddenly I was in the dark! Power out until much later in the night.

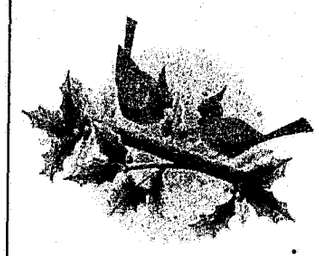
This has been a very busy, but fun week. I happened to see my neighbor, Edna York and her daughters yesterday. Edna will be 102 on Dec. 27! What a wonderful lady she is. She still plays the organ in the church and seems as spry

Happy Holidays

From Area Businesses to You!

During this season of festivity, we'd like to celebrate all of those who have given us so much joy this past year.

In the spirit of giving, we would like to offer our thanks for your support and confidence. May all your holiday wishes come true.



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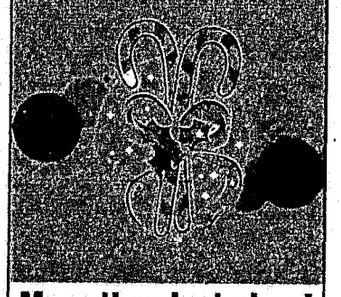

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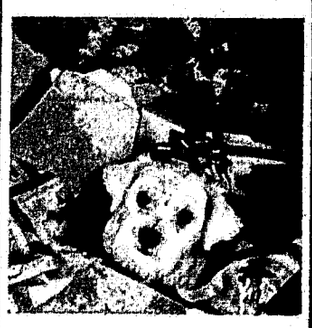

Season's Greetings

We'd like to wish our customers a joyous holiday season and a prosperous New year.

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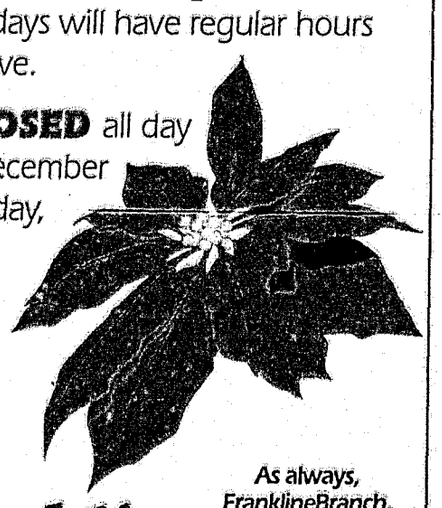
All locations of Franklin Savings Bank that are open on Saturdays will have regular hours on Christmas Eve.

We will be **CLOSED** all day on Monday, December 26th and Monday, January 2nd in observance of the holidays.



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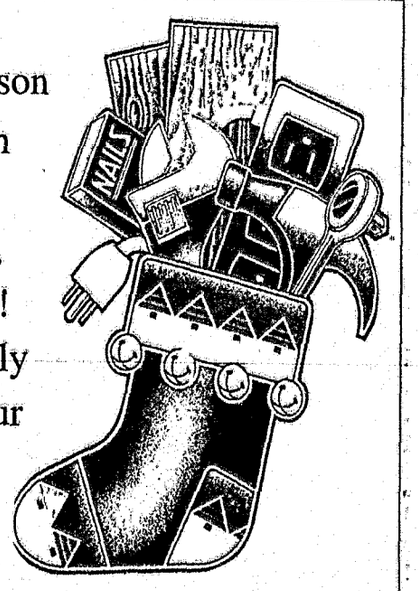
May this season overflow with good times, good friends, and good fun! We're especially thankful for our good friends like you.



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as ever.

On my way home I stopped to get the news from Margaret Barton. She is doing fine, out on her own now and is very happy. She and Jane Wardwell attended a Christmas concert at the Unitarian/Universalist Church in Auburn on Saturday evening to hear Phillip House play the organ and piano.

I also got a call from Irene Anderson who is home recuperating from open-heart surgery. She has been crocheting snowflakes of all sizes and shapes and to this point has one hundred of them on her Christmas tree.

Keep up the good work.

I spent some time this week with Doug, Jen and Bella Bennett. We went out to eat and did some Christmas shopping. Word from Florida is that Carlton Rugg's cancer has returned and he is under going radiation. We all send our love and prayers to Carlton and Pam.

It is five o'clock on Monday so must get ready for work. After three and one half days we will be out for a nice long break until the New Year. A very Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year to all.

Greenwood City

By MINDY SWEETSER

Joy to the World. Good tidings to all from Greenwood City.

It's now three days before Christmas and not a snowstorm in sight! The winter air has arrived to assure us we are truly in the right month but it's not begging to look a lot like Christmas! The ponds are all open and showing their white caps, the ground is slowly freezing; still awaiting its blanket of insulation for its long winters nap.

We must all think snow for one reason or another when the flakes start dancing in the sky, dazzling the air and magically covering the land with white glitter. It warms our hearts with love and joy and inspires the cheer of Christmas in Maine. I'm sure everyone has their own specific holiday inspirations whether it be a white Christmas, the natural aroma of the fir balsam tree, the sweet smell of sugar cookies browning in the oven, or the wondrous sound of Christmas music beautifully sung by God's gifted singers.

Whatever helps you get in the mood and up lifts your spirit to enjoy the harmony at this wonderful time of year, we can all be certain that the magic of Christmas brings out the young life that is within us all. I'm so happy to hear all the soldiers will be returning home. What an immeasurable gift.

It's depressing to hear yet another dairy farm has been forced to close. The last Waterford dairy farm, known as the Springer's farm, had been passed down for seven generations and now it's hit rock bottom. They say the economy is starting to recover but what about the little farmers?

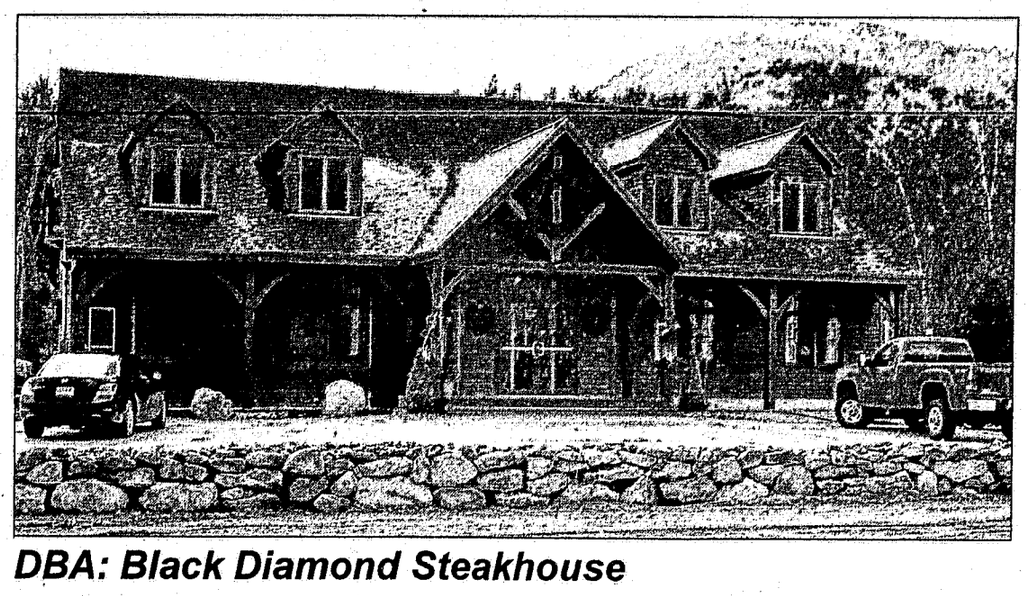
I have tried for almost two years to get help from the state of Maine to keep us running and they have come up with one excuse after another. Does anyone realize where their food will come from if the small farms all go under? I like to rest assured the food I put on the table for my family is not going to get them sick from mishandling or chemicals.

As it is, there is a high demand in beef now to feed the people and with prices as high as it is, who can afford to raise their own beef creature or better yet buy it in the store? And then once you've consumed it learn about the recall on it .Farmers are truly struggling and something needs to be done about that. With such high gas prices which makes a chain effect on everything like grain, hay, bedding, etc.

Then we are faced with new laws on raw milk and licenses you can't do this and you can't do that. What happened to freedom of choice? My choice is to drink raw milk with no chemicals added and naturally grown meat that has no growth enhancers and eggs that are fed no animal byproducts.

We cannot afford to lose our local dairy farms. My kids and I will see that the Inch by Inch farm that my Grandfather has worked so hard to keep running will continue to offer the goodness of natural farm raised food. We would like to thank all our customers for keeping us going. Shop local; that is a good thing

Let's take a glance of what I did last week: My sister gave my daughter her early Christ-



DBA: Black Diamond Steakhouse

The Black Diamond Steakhouse (824-4044) opened recently at 96 Sunday River Road in Bethel. Open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., the steakhouse serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Owner Rick Savage also plans to open Two Brothers Sports Bar soon, to be located upstairs from the restaurant.

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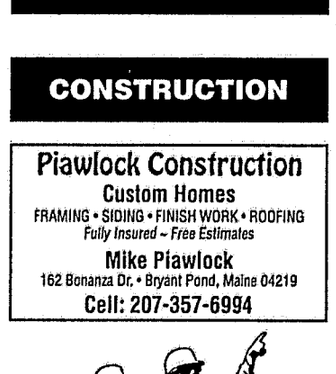

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mas present Saturday. She took her to Teresa's hair studio in Bryant Pond to get a spiral perm and it came out awesome. She looks like Shirley Temple!

We dehorned our jersey heifer calf. It's a painful duty for both man and animal but a job that should be done for safety. We made 37 pounds of fresh home made butter and it sells as fast as I package it which is a good thing.

Our Christmas tree is holding up nicely. It's surrounded by lots of beautifully wrapped presents and not one has my name on it! I just love the pictures and crafts my kids make me. It makes them feel so good to know they have something they worked for and made all by themselves and the secret of what it is excites them for me to open it first.

My oldest son requested that the tree stay in longer then we normally keep it. Usually we are forced to take it out the day after Christmas but this year it has proven to continue it's health and beauty, so his wish will be granted.

My father underwent minor surgery last week and all went well. He is now recovering at home. The kids had a great veterans meeting Thursday and had an unexpected visit from Old Saint Nick. My grandfather has been feeling the loss of his old work horse and longs to replace him with a nice little half linger in hopes of driving a wagon with the kids one day.

The new cat has been adjusting well and relaxing knowing she has all the food and warmth she should ever need. I brought my SUV up to the Savages Garage in Bethel to get worked on. Good thing for a smart brother-in-law!

This week will be just as busy with festive cooking, school parties and preparing for a magical weekend no matter how old you are and how many presents you receive.

I believe Christmas is truly the best time of year. My thought for the week is spoke right from my heart from personal experience.

My Christmas thought for the week is: Close the window of hate and allow the door of love to open, let kindness fill your heart, for hate will destroy your soul. 'Forgiving is to be forgiven' and it is a gift from God! Merry Christmas to all!

So. Woodstock

By LOLALEE DILLINGHAM

Well good morning dear readers, it's a beautiful, sunny day on this 16th day of December with temps in the 40s (46 degrees here at 9:16 a.m.). No complaints from me, I'll take every day like today for as long as I can. It sure helps on the oil bill and keeps the house warm during the sunny days.

Ya, I'm sure we will pay for it in the long run, for probably we will get bitter cold and lots of snowy weather in January and February. But it will make for a shorter winter with great days like today.

Condolences to the families of Doris Waterhouse, Thomas Wood and Frances Johnson on the loss of their loved ones. Love and prayers to each family member.

I was about to fry up onions and hamburg for a chop suey when I was made aware that Hannaford's was recalling their hamburg due to Salmonella bacteria in it I have a large eight-quart crockpot full of macaroni all ready to add the hamburg ingredients, when I heard of the bacteria in the meat. Was thankful I took a few extra minutes more to enjoy my morning beverage and catch up on my Facebook page before deciding to head for the kitchen to start frying the onions and meat, and this popped up right before my eyes as I was about to shut the computer off for the day.

The house is filling up with great smells from the mini-breads and cookies I got baking off. And the house is filled with Christmas carols a blaring from the TV. All my cards were signed and sent last week. Now to concentrate on getting some last-minute gifts bagged up and tagged.

I keep looking out and hoping to see a yard full of birds enjoying the fresh feed in the feeders. I so miss seeing them this time of the year, so I'm asking Santa to send me some beautiful colorful birds to brighten up my winter months. This would be the greatest gift of all for me this year, along with good health for all my family and friends.

So here is wishing a very Merry, Merry Christmas to each of you and your loved ones from our house to yours.

Quote of the week: "The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore, all progress depends on the unreasonable man."

Bryant Pond

By ALICE HOYT

Judith Grover Tent 17 DUVCW met at the home of Alice Hoyt on Monday, Dec. 12, with 10 members present. A meeting was held with second nomination of officers. Vicky Myers will be president next year. It was reported the boxes were sent to Michael Redman and Will Seames, both serving overseas. Sally and Elsie attended Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Bethel Civil War monument. They also delivered the gifts to Togus, both for veterans and the gift shop. Money was also sent from Tent for the veterans. Sally read about Pearl Harbor in 1941, 70 years ago. Calls made were 28. Helvi Cary received the mystery package. Jan. 9 is the next meeting and will be installation of officers. Christmas cards were received and thank you from Joyce Howe. Some dues were received. An exchange of gifts and cards was held and a tasting party.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday school at 9:15; morning worship at 10:30; evening services at 6. Wednesday evening is prayer meeting at 6:30. Saturday, Dec. 24, will be the candlelight service at 6 p.m. Sunday, Christmas Day, no Sunday school or evening service; regular morning worship at 10:30. Sunday, Jan. 1, is "Visions Sunday" and back to regular Sunday schedule.

The Bethel Rotary put on a delicious dinner with banjo music for the Seniors in the Bethel area on Tuesday at the Locke Mills Legion Hall. It was well attended. Much thanks to them.

Sympathy is extended to Elwood Wing and family in the loss of a grandson and nephew. The Historical Society Museum is outstanding. Its exhibits are fine, ranging from art and antique furniture, glass and china to a collection of local postcards and hundreds of old photos. The quality and quantity of society artifacts is astonishing. This rare collection must be preserved and protected. So, join the society and help out. If you wish to join, call Paul and Vicki Billings at 743-8035.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Local teams in MV Rec basketball

The Mountain Valley Rec Men's Basketball League kicked off its season Dec. 4 with a trio of games at Puiia Gymnasium in Rumford. There are six entries in the league this year, playing a 12 -game schedule with a single elimination playoff format. All games are played at Mountain Valley High School or Middle School.

Last year's champion Bethel Bobcats lead the charge to defend their title.

They are led by cousins T.J. and Ryan Savage, sharp shooter Sean Caddigan, slasher Wade Osgood and big man Matt Lawrence along with a few other name athletes from the Bethel area.

They are currently in second place at 2-1 behind the other Bethel contingent, Mt. Abram.

Currently at 3-0, Mt. Abram boasts a revamped line up lead by Spencer Glover and JT Taylor (Rumford), Tyler Wentworth and big men Matt Newell and Trevis Knapp(Dixfield).

J and G Ballers are a group put together by Bethel's Joe Goudreau and Rumford's Glen Dubois.

Currently 0-3, they have the ability to be a competitive team with the likes of big Miles Whitlock (Augusta), Josh Alden (Chesterville) and Danny Thibeault (Rumford).

With the holiday's upon us and games played on Sundays, the next schedule of games is Jan. 8 at 10 a.m. with LBI hosting Bethel Bobcats.

At 11:30 Jay takes on Mt. Abram and at 1 p.m. Archies and J/G Ballers square off.

Church Services

BETHEL

Bethel Alliance Church - Rev. Kevin Bellinger, Pastor. Sundays: Sunday school for adults and children at 9 a.m.; Worship Service at 10 a.m.; Kidz Klub (4 yrs.-5th grade) and High School Youth Group (9th-12th grade) at 4:30-6:30 p.m. Thursdays: Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th grade) at 5 p.m. FMI: 824-2289.

Bethel Church of the Nazarene - Rev. Chuck Mason, 16 Church Street, Bethel. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. A.M Worship, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Bible Study and Prayer, 6 p.m. Third Sunday of each month at 9 a.m., breakfast open to the public at no charge. For information or if you need a ride or have a prayer request: 824-4028.

Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Savior, Our Lady of the Snows - 265 Walkers Mills Road (Rt. 26), The Rev. Philip Tracy. Saturday Mass, 6 p.m. Office 364-4556, announcements 824-2933.

Episcopal House Church - Third Sunday of the month, 4 p.m. FMI: 824-3932.

West Parish Congregational - Church Street, Rev. Virginia Rickeman, Pastor. Sundays: 10 a.m. worship and Sunday School. Nursery and child care provided. Tuesdays: 8 a.m., informal Prayer Group with coffee in the Chapel. All are welcome. First Wednesday of the month: 8 a.m., Mens' Breakfast in the Dining Room downstairs. Entrance in rear of church. Thursdays: 7 p.m. Choir Practice in the Sanctuary. New voices welcome. FMI: 824-2689; 824-0550.

United Methodist - Main Street - Pastor Carol Stevens, Sunday worship 9 a.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at Sudbury Village, Apt. 15. FMI: 824-0797.

West Bethel Union - Rev. John Williams. Morning worship and 9 a.m. Sunday School. FMI: 836-3533 or 836-2882.

Pleasant Valley Bible Sunday Services: Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship Service, 10 a.m., Ladies Bible study Tuesday, 2:30-p.m. Midweek Bible study and prayer, Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana Club Fridays 3:30-5 p.m. (Cubbies ages 3/4; Sparks Grades K-2; children may take bus from school). Monthly Youth Group meetings and Grades 3- high school. FMI: 824-2037 or 836-3763.

Church of Christ - at home of Keith Hamel, minister, 507 Walker's Mills Road (Route 26), Bethel. Sunday: Bible class, 9 a.m; Worship Service 10 a.m. Wednesday: Bible study, 7 p.m. FMI: 824-3577.

Seventh Day Adventist Fellowship: Meets at the Nazarene Church on Saturdays, on Church Street in Bethel. Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. FMI: 824-8939.

Church of the White Cloud Outreach Healing Ministries-Mail Blessings Study Course; phone requests prayerline. Rev. Paula Ewing 824-2782. Jesus is a Friend.

NEWRY

Sunday River Christian Ministry - Rev. Don Coverdale. ***Summer:*** For weddings call (781) 710-8086. ***Winter:*** Interdenominational worship, seasonal Christmas Eve through Easter. Sunday 10 to 11 a.m. at White Cap, second floor.

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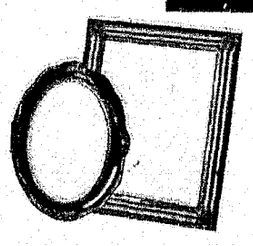

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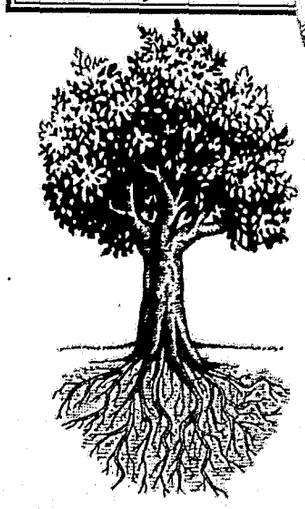

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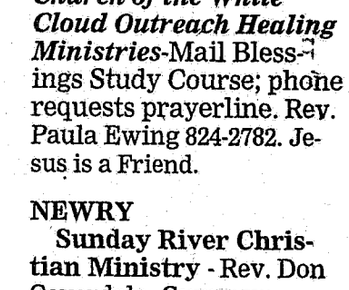

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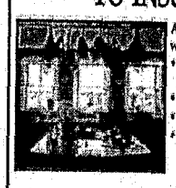

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Happening Around Town

Country Christmas in Bethel
Through Saturday, December 24,

Small town atmosphere, fun events , Thanksgiving to Christmas. Country Christmas in Bethel is weekends Thanksgiving to Christmas, with a few mid-week activities also. Saturday afternoon Wagon rides through historic Bethel village, open houses, shopping specials, holiday concerts, greens sale, Living Nativity.

Horse-drawn Wagon Rides
Saturday, December 24,

What a great Christmas Eve Day fun activity for the whole family! 2:00-4:00pm! Don't forget your camera! Thank you to Mt. Abram Ski Resort for making this Saturday wagon ride possible for all to enjoy. Meet at the north end of the town common near the Chapman Inn for rides through historic Bethel village. Rides given by Deepwood Farm.

Black Diamond Family Entertainment presents: Brent McCoy Comedy that WORKS!
Tuesday, December 27

7:00 pm- Grand Summit Resort Hotel, Sunday River. Brent McCoy is one hard-working entertainer. Technically difficult and accidentally amazing, his performance combines spectacular circus skills, ridiculous physical comedy, and spontaneous audience interaction. Brent's work has been called fabulous, funny, and amazing by audiences everywhere. Whether he's wielding five safety cones, untangling a tape measure, or balancing precariously atop his Rolling Globe-O-la, you'll be spellbound for the entire show. FMI call 1-800-543-2754.

Community Supper
Tuesday, December 27

Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walker's Mills Road (across from Telstar parking lot). No charge. FMI: 824-2289.

Black Diamond Family Entertainment presents: Master Stage Hypnotist Ian Stewart
Thursday, December 29

7pm - Grand Summit Hotel Ballroom, Sunday River. Ian Stewart is one of North Americas top comedic hypnotists! Ian Stewart draws from more than a decade of experience to provide a unique blend of hypnotism, audience participation and non-stop laughter! Ever wonder what it would be like to be a contestant in the Miss America Competition, take a trip to Mars, forget how to count or even speak in a completely new language? Well, Ian invites volunteers from your audience to come on stage and do just that (and much, much, more). Ian Stewart is widely regarded as the experienced, professional choice in Hypnotic Entertainment! FMI call 1-800-543-2754.

Black Diamond Family Entertainment presents: Fire Performer Kait-Ma
Saturday, December 31, 2011

7:45 & 8:15 p.m. - Slopeside at South Ridge, Free Admission. Maine's premier fire performer, Kait-Ma has been captivating audiences all over Maine with her elegantly mesmerizing fire & dance performances. Kait-Ma captures the essence of ancient fire ritual using many techniques of tribal rhythm, belly dance, fire breathing, sword dance, flaming hoops, staff, fans, and more.Come enjoy two unique performances just prior to one of our largest fireworks show of the year. A free slope side show at the South Ridge Lodge- a great way to ring in the New Year. Spectacular fireworks immediately following the show.

Your holiday dinner will be a snap with these quick and easy ideas

Chicken Cordon Bleu
An elegant holiday dinner you can make in your slow cooker.

2 eggs
2 cups milk, divided
1 tbsp dried, minced onion
8 slices bread, cubed and crusts removed
12 thin slices cooked ham, rolled up
8 oz pkg shredded Swiss cheese
2½ cups chicken, cooked and cubed
10¾ oz can cream of chicken soup

Beat eggs and 1½ cups of milk together; stir in onion and bread cubes. Place half of the mixture in a 3½ quart slow cooker; top with half of the rolled up ham, cheese and chicken. Combine soup and remaining milk and pour half over chicken. Repeat layers again, topping with remaining soup mixture. Cover and cook on low for 4 to 5 hours or until a thermometer inserted in the bread mixture reads 160 degrees. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Cheesy Potatoes

32 oz pkg frozen shredded hashbrowns, partially thawed
2 tbsp onion, chopped
2 cups cheddar cheese, grated
2 cups sour cream
10¾ oz can cream of chicken soup
1 tsp salt
¼ tsp pepper
2 cups corn flake cereal, crushed
½ cup butter, melted

In a large bowl, combine all ingredients except for corn flake cereal and butter. Mix well, place in a 13"x9" baking dish. In another bowl, combine cereal and melted butter; sprinkle on top of potato mixture. Bake, uncovered at 350 degrees for one hour. Serves 10 to 12.

Winter Salad with Dijon Dressing
An irresistible mix of flavors.

1 to 2 heads romaine, red leaf and/or green leaf lettuce
1 apple, cored and chopped
1 red onion, chopped
½ cup sweetened, dried cranberries
½ cup sliced almonds
½ cup crumbled blue cheese

Dijon Dressing:
¾ cup olive oil
3 tbsp sherry wine vinegar
3 tbsp lemon juice
1 tbsp Dijon mustard
Whisk together all ingredients

Toss together lettuce, apple and onion with Dijon dressing in a large salad bowl. Sprinkle with remaining ingredients. Amounts can be adjusted according to your taste and how much you want to make. Serves 6 to 8.

Honeyed Maple Carrots
Maple, honey and cinnamon make such a tasty glaze!

2 lbs baby carrots
2 tbsp butter
½ cup honey
2 tbsp maple syrup
⅛ tsp cinnamon

Place carrots in a large saucepan, cover with water and boil until fork tender. Drain and place in an ungreased 1½ quart baking dish or deep dish pie plate. Melt butter in a saucepan; stir in honey and maple syrup. Pour mixture over carrots and stir to coat; sprinkle with cinnamon. Bake, uncovered, at 325 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Yuletide Wassail
Warm up with a cup after a day of playing in the snow!

2 cups sugar
6½ cups water, divided
¼ tsp allspice
⅛ tsp ground cloves
⅛ tsp ground ginger
12 oz can frozen orange juice concentrate
6 oz can frozen lemonade concentrate
2 qts apple cider

Combine sugar and 4 cups water in a 5-quart saucepan; boil for 5 minutes. Add remaining ingredients; heat thoroughly before serving. Makes 18 to 24 servings.

Pumpkin Dip
Serve with gingersnaps, vanilla wafers, or graham crackers for a sweet treat.

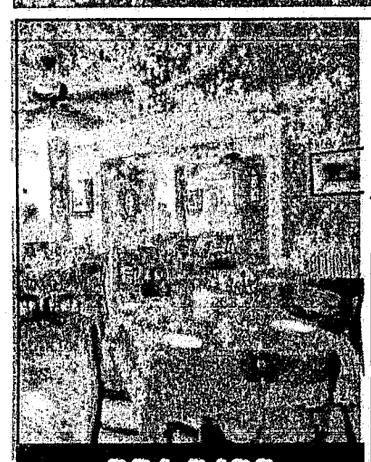
1 lb pkg powdered sugar
2 8 oz pkgs cream cheese, softened
30 oz can pumpkin pie filling
2 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp ground ginger

Blend powdered sugar and cream cheese together until fluffy; mix in pumpkin pie filling, cinnamon and ginger. Cover and chill. Makes 7 cups.

© Gooseberry Patch

DEC 22 2011

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



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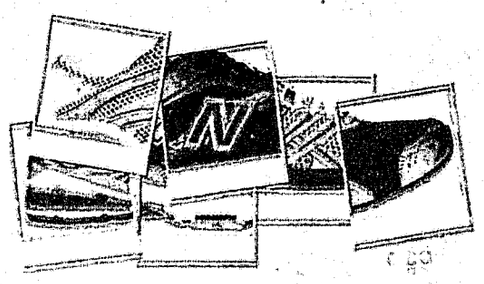

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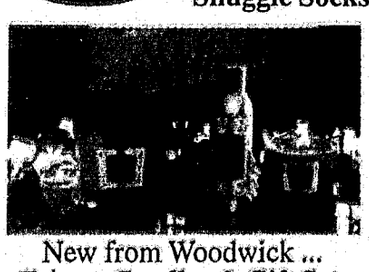

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Christmas Cards

Sending out Christmas greetings is a tradition that is still common today. Have you ever wondered just how many cards are sent across the country? According to Hallmark Corporate, 1.5 billion Christmas cards, including boxed and individual cards, are purchased and then sent every year in the U.S. This makes Christmas the No. 1 holiday for sending greetings, followed by Valentine's Day (144 million) and Mother's Day (133 million).

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Umbagog

Continued from page 1

Rep. Charles Bass of New Hampshire, and asks them to visit the area. So far in Errol he has collected an estimated 75 to 100 signatures, he said, but he has also sent to Upton, Berlin, Manchester and Nashua, N.H., as well as Canaan, Vt.

He also said he has contacted the presidential campaigns of Ron Paul and Mitt Romney about the land-acquisition issue.

The petition makes more than a half dozen claims and complaints about the plan and its process. Among them:

Errol now has more untaxable land than taxable;

The government can outbid private buyers for land and dwellings;

Local residents will be forced from their homes as a result of higher property taxes, because the refuge does not pay property taxes. In addition, the refuge does not pay New Hampshire timber taxes on timber it cuts.

Land purchased by the government is being clearcut before the sale, with ecological effects felt for years, and camps sold are being ground up and sent to a landfill;

Refuge hunting regulations are too restrictive;

Snowmobile trails on the refuge are open only because a few years ago the refuge manager [Paul Casey] was promised an injunction if he closed them. He signed a 15-year agreement to keep the trails open, but in a few years that will be over;

The refuge has construction equipment that sits idle, and local contractors should be used for all work.

The petition argues that all land purchased outside the borders of the original refuge should be sold to "private concerns with conservation easements attached," which would result in sustainable logging, taxable land, fewer restrictions on recreational use, and would ensure a strong tourism industry.

The petition also calls for Casey's removal, claiming he has not respected local residents' opinions and concerns.

Plan numbers

While the refuge does not pay property taxes, it does pay "refuge revenue sharing" (RSS) to towns to compensate for lost tax revenues. The 2009 federal plan states that in 2007, it paid nearly $11,000 in refuge revenue sharing to Upton and $24,000 to Errol. The plan says the amount distributed may vary depending on Congressional appropriations each year.

And based on 2005 taxes, the plan projects that if all lands targeted for acquisition were purchased, Upton would experience a net annual loss in revenue of about $5,000, and Errol about $3,600.

But Lord said that this year, Errol's RRS payment was only about $13,000, because of the annual variations in appropriations. He said the amount paid to Errol doesn't total half of what the town would receive on the land if it were taxed.

In recent years in Upton, the payments have been $8,204 in 2009, $9,361 in 2010, and $6,596 in 2011, according to town officials.

Casey response

Casey, who lives in Upton, was asked last week about the petition's claims. His responses follow:

Amount of untaxable land in Errol: The refuge is the largest non-taxable landowner, at more than 15,000 acres. The town itself, which is 38,000 acres in size, is the next largest non-taxable landowner, with about 7,000 acres of such land. [The town has a town forest].

Timber taxes: The refuge, as part of the acquisition plan, has agreed to pay timber yield taxes. Using the example of about 3,000 acres purchased in New Hampshire earlier this year, he said the seller had cut off the trees prior to the sale and paid the tax on the timber. When the trees grow back in 15 or 20 years, if the refuge harvests them, it would pay the tax as well.

Land purchase: The refuge is not allowed to pay above fair market value, and each property is appraised before purchase. And, said Casey, "We had a lot of public input," in the planning process, and more weight was given to local comments than to those at the national level. [Note: There was some opposition voiced among Upton residents during that process.]

Clearcuts: The land would be cut off one way or the other before being sold to any buyer. "Any owner is going to take the value off. But the trees grow back," he said.

Hunting restrictions: Casey acknowledged the refuge is more restrictive on such requirements as the use of non-toxic steel shot instead of lead, and the use of hunter orange clothing. New Hampshire allows lead shot, he said, but the refuge bans it because of the danger it poses when ingested by wildlife. The Granite State also does not require hunter orange, but Casey said the refuge wants to emphasize safety.

Snowmobile trails: Casey said connecting trails have been allowed throughout the planning process, and there is no formal agreement in place that needs to be renewed. The refuge has pledged to maintain connecting trails in Maine and New Hampshire He also said the refuge has laid out its land use plan for the next 15 to 20 years. "There are no other landowners who put out plans like that," he said. "We are maintaining the traditional values of this area."

Construction equipment: Equipment is used for small maintenance projects, he said. Larger projects, said Casey, "are bid out to local contractors." He said roads in Magalloway Plantation, for example, are maintained by local contractors.

As for selling most of the purchased land to private buyers with easements attached, Casey said the land that has been bought is the most valuable for wildlife, and it will be managed that way. "We purchased it for a purpose," he said.

For more on the plan go to the Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge website at www.fws.gov/northeast/planning/Umbagog/finalCCP.html.

For more information on the petition effort, Lord may be contacted at rlord46@yahoo.com.

School Sports

High School Girls' J.V. Basketball

Spruce Mt. 44, Telstar 35; Dec. 19- Telstar showed great hustle and improvement against Spruce Mountain losing 44-35 at home. The team battled all game against a taller and aggressive Phoenix team coming within 1 point with 4 minutes to go in the fourth quarter. The team did a much better job on defense and rebounding which helped them to stay in the game. Offensive contributions were shared by Savanna Pelletier with 7, Katie Merrill and Jenny Wakefield with 6 each, 4 from Alyssa Brands and Kayla Waterhouse, 3 from Maisey Griffin, 2 by Jessie Kelly and Crystelle Head, and a free throw by Dora Pilgrim-Guay. Great team effort!- Coach Mark Kenney

High School Boys' Varsity Basketball

Spruce Mountain 51, Telstar 42, Dec. 19-Telstar scorers: Dom Haines 10 points, Corey Howard 8 points, and Danny Whitney 8 points

Dirigo 69, Telstar 25, Dec. 16-Telstar scorers: Dom Haines 7 points, Corey Howard 6 points.

High School Boys' J.V. Basketball

Dirigo 66, Telstar 25; Dec. 16-Telstar scorers: Nik Conrad 6 points, Zack Mills 6 points, and Austin Ryerson 5 points.

Spruce Mountain 70, Telstar 27; Dec. 19- Telstar scorers: Austin Ryerson 7 points, Bronson Dean 5 points, and Ryan Vail 4 points

TMS Boys' Varsity Basketball

Telstar 41, St. Doms 22; Dec. 14-Telstar improved to 2-1 with a victory over St. Doms. Brandon Dougherty led all scoring with 16 points, while Avery Griffin had in 8 points, and Cameron Pike 7 points. The team is improving every game.- Coach Tim O'Connor

MAC GOLDEN GATES PERFORMANCE-An authentic glimpse into Old Russia through the music and dance of the Golden Gates Company will be featured Jan. 5 at 7 p.m. at Bingham Auditorium on Church Street. FMI see calendar below or go to www.mahoosucarts.org.

Community Calendar

Sundays thru March 4

2:30 to 4:30 p.m. - **Public Skating** at Hebron Academy Robinson Arena rink. Cost: $3 Adults/$2 age 12 and under. Parking available in Athletic Center lot off Route 119. FMI: 966-2100 or visit www.hebronacademy.org.

Thru Dec. 30

Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - **The Creche Collection**, display of creches (small or large modeled representation or tableau of Mary,Joseph and others around the crib of Jesus, from around the world at Leura Hill Eastman Performing Arts Center, 18 Bradley Street, Fryeburg Academy. FMI: 935-9232.

Friday, Dec. 23

Norway Open Mic Night. The last night Heather Pierson hosts the Open Mic Night at First Universalist Church, 479 Main Street, Norway. Sign-up begins 6:30 p.m. and open mic about 7 p.m. Admission: $3. Also, a collection of non-perishable food items for Oxford Hills Food Pantry. FMI: (603) 733-6350 or e-mail heather@heatherpierson.com

Saturday, Dec. 24

2 to 4 p.m. - **Horse-drawn Wagon Rides** sponsored by Mt. Abram Ski Resort. Meet north end of Bethel Common, near Chapman Inn for rides through Bethel by Deepwood Farm, Albany.

Sunday, Dec. 25

2 p.m. - **Christmas Day Community Dinner**, Woodstock SDA Church, Bryant Pond. FMI/reservation: 665-2074.

Tuesday Dec. 27

7 p.m. - **Black Diamond Family Entertainment** presents Brent McCoy – Comedy that WORKS!, Grand Summit Resort Hotel, Sunday River. Tickets: Adults (13/over) $6 advance or $8 door; 12 and under $4 advance/$6 door; 5 and under free. FMI: (800) 543-2SKI or visit www.sundayriver.com.

Wednesday, Dec. 28

4:30 to 6 p.m. - **Community Supper** (no charge), Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walker's Mills Road (across from Telstar parking lot). FMI: 824-2289.

Saturday, Dec. 31

7:45 to 8:15 p.m. - **Black Diamond Family Entertainment** presents fire performer Kait-Ma, slopeside at South Ridge,Sunday River Ski Resort. Admission free. Fireworks immediately after show. FMI: (800) 543-2SKI or visit www.sundayriver.com.

8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. – New Year's Eve Dance and Buffet by Jones Dance Band at South Paris Legion Hall. $15 single/$30 couple. FMI/Reservation: Betty 743-7965.

Jan. 1 and 29, March 25

Community Ski Days for SAD 44 residents, Sunday River Ski Resort. Ski and rent equipment free. Also, participate for free in Adult Learn to Ski/Ride Clinics (ages 15-plus). Pre-registration required. 50 percent discount on food and beverages.

Monday, Jan. 2

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. - **Socrates Cafe** gathering at Waterford Library. Topic: "Income Inequality: How Does This Affect Us As A Society?" Connie Allen moderator. FMI: 583-6957 or e-mail wla@waterford.lib.me.us.

Monday, Jan. 2 thru 8

USSA Cross Country National Championships at Black Mountain of Maine, Rumford. FMI: Craig Zurhorst, Media Relations (357-9102) or e-mail craig.zurhorst@gmail.com or Carlie Casey, Chief of Competition (360-961-2099) or e-mail carlie@skibikehike.net

Thursday, Jan. 5

7 p.m. - **Golden Gates Russian Music and Dance Company**, second in Gould Academy Performing Arts Series, presented by Mahoosuc Arts Council in Gould Academy's Bingham Auditorium, Church Street. Tickets available at door or call 824-3575. **Same program presented Jan. 4 at Telstar Middle/High School, district home school/private school students.** FMI: www.mahoosucarts.org

Friday, Jan. 6

1 to 6 p.m. - **American Red Cross Blood Drive**, South Ridge Base Lodge Mahoosuc room. FMI: (800) GIVE-LIFE.

Monday, Jan. 9

5 to 7 p.m. - **Black Diamond Family Entertainment** presents Close Up and Strolling Magic with Markus Almodarr Steelgrave, Foggy Goggle, Sunday River. Free admission. Fireworks 7:30 p.m. viewed from Foggy Goggle deck. FMI: (800) 543-2SKI or visit www.sundayriver.com.

7 to 7:20 p.m. - **Black Diamond Family Entertainment** presents Fire Dancer Diane Kibbin in free outdoor show, South Ridge Base Lodge, Sunday River Ski Resort. Free admission. Fireworks following. FMI: (800) 543-2SKI or visit www.sundayriver.com.

7:30 p.m. **Leura Hill Eastman Performing Arts Center**, 18 Bradley Street, Fryeburg Academy, presents Dave Pietro and the NYU Wayne Shorter Ensemble. Tickets: $10 adults/$5 seniors (65+) and students available online www.fryeburgacademy.org/pac or call 935-9232. Free parking.

Wednesday, Jan. 11

11 a.m. - **Bethel Senior Citizens Club** potluck dinner/meeting at Bethel Methodist Church, Main Street. Members to bring dish to share. Dues ($3) due at this meeting. New members always welcome.

5:30 p.m. - **Mollyockett Chapter of Trout Unlimited** member/guest meeting, First Congregational Church, Market Square, South Paris. Meeting starts with fly tying instructional session (tools furnished or bring your own). At 7 p.m. guest speaker Rod McGarry presents "Fly Fishing: Tough and Tactical or Easy and Innovative." FMI: Dick Walthers (743-2193.

Thursday, Jan. 12

2 p.m. - **Whitman Memorial Library**, Bryant Pond will have guest speaker Dr. Fred Jordan, Deputy Chief Medical Examiner and consultant forensic pathologist to Maine Office of Chief Medical Examiner in Augusta. Free and open to public. Refreshments.

7 p.m. - **Black Diamond Family Entertainment** presents Davey the Clown, Grand Summit Resort Hotel, Sunday River Ski Resort. Cost: adults (13 over) $6 advance/$8 door, 12 and under $4 advance, $6 door, 5 and under free. FMI: (800) 543-2SKI or visit www.sundayriver.com.

Saturday, Jan. 21

7 p.m. - **Black Diamond Family Entertainment** The Boston Bubble Guy at Grand Summit Resort Hotel, Sunday River Ski Resort. Tickets: adults (13 over) $6 advance/$8 door, 12 and under $4 advance, $6 door, 5 and under free. FMI: (800) 543-2SKI or visit www.sundayriver.com.

LIBRARY HOURS

Andover Library: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday 1-4:30 pm; Thursday 1-4:30 & 6-8 pm. Tel: 392-4841

Bethel Library: Monday 9-1; Tuesday 1-5; Wednesday 1-8; Thursday & Friday 1-5 Saturday, 9-1. Story Hour Thursdays, 9 to 10 a.m., October to May. Tel: 824-2520.

Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond: Tel: 665-2505. Tuesday and Thursday, 1 to 5 p.m.

West Paris Library, West Paris: Monday 1:30-6; Wednesday 1:30-7; Friday 1:30-6; Saturday 10-2. Patty Makley, Librarian. Tel: 674-2004

Gardner Roberts Memorial Library, Hanover: Wednesday, 9-3; Thursday, 5-8; Saturday, 9-noon.

Calendar items may be brought to the Citizen office, e-mailed to news@bethelcitizen.com or faxed 824-2426

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RENTALS

2 bedroom partially furnished year-round rental in Albany, 15 minutes to Sunday River Resort – with frontage on Songo Pond. Available immediately. Lots of privacy, very peaceful! Rent includes wood adequate to heat through winter, and plowing. $650 per month, plus one month security deposit to move in. Need to provide good rental references and sign one year lease. Call 824-2335, evenings only.

2 BR MOBLE HOME, utilities included, $700. 1 BR park model, utilities included, $750. 6 miles from Sunday River Skiway. Call 557-2845 for more info.

3 BEDROOM RANCH. Hot water, oil heat. At the end of Mt. View Circle, West Bethel, $700/month. Call 836-3763

3 bedroom, 2 bath seasonal rental near Sunday River. Fully furnished, W/D. Quiet location. $4950 plus utilities and tax, if applicable. Plowing included. (207) 824-2115

APARTMENT: Fully furnished. Suitable for 2 adults. Great for teachers or retired person. No pets, no smokers. For more info call 824-2568.

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BETHEL AREA: Fully furnished turn key ready 1 bedroom single family cottage. Heat, electric, trash and snow removal included. No pets/smoking OK. $800/month, 6 month lease. Call 836-3876, Frank or Mabel.

BETHEL VILLAGE: Cozy 3 bedroom ski house. Professional persons or family up to 4. Fully furnished, great location. Call 207-824-2340 (seasonal or year-round)

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CHRISTMAS WEEKENDS, BETHEL: Fireplace, washer, dryer, dishwasher. Six miles to Sunday River, sleeps 6-8. Nice mountain views, garage. $150/day. Cell: 603-247-2081, 603-552-3295

ELDERWOOD MANOR, Andover: Ground floor apartments for rent. $530 1-b, $555 2-b, or according to one's income, which is a plus. Rent covers snow removal, garbage removal, repairs. 62+ or handicapped. NO SMOKING in any building. Equal Housing Opportunity. 392-2241.

FOR RENT: 1-2 BEDROOM in-town Bethel apartment, 2nd floor. Lg deck and backyard, good pets welcome. $750 per month plus utilities. Available December 1. 824-2336

FOR RENT: Nice selection of long term, vacation, seasonal rentals available. Bethel/Sunday River area. Now accepting properties for the upcoming season. Please contact Mahoosuc Rentals, 207-824-2771 or www.mahoosucrentals.com

GORGEOUS IN-TOWN 2 or 3 bedroom furnished apartments available. Daily, short-term, or for the season. Call (207) 824-8060.

HOUSE FOR RENT: Stoneham, Maine. Seasonal or monthly, 3 bedroom/3 bath. Modern, open interior, surrounded by WMNF, close to Sunday River and Shawnee Peak ski areas, on state snowmobile trail, cross country skiing/hiking/biking from door, close to Kezar Lake, 2 car garage. $850/month plus utilities, 1 month deposit. No smoking, small dogs considered. Call 207-890-4501

LARGE 1 bedroom apartment/office located on lower Main Street, Bethel. Tile floors, large living room, deck, immaculate. Available December 1. 12 month lease. $800/month, heat and hot water included. No smoking, no pets. Must be seen! 824-4836

LOG HOME IN HANOVER: Quiet location, furnished. 5 minutes from Sunday River. One bedroom. No pets/smokers. 824-3342

NEWRY: 3 bedroom sunny ranch on Bear River. 10 minutes to mountain. Fully furnished, DirecTV, washer and dryer. $800/week, $250/weekend. Inquire for season or holidays. 207-439-5461

Renovated, furnished one bedroom studio cottage, Worthley Pond, Peru. Move in ready. $425.00/month plus expenses. Available until June 2012. 207 364-8607

RENTALS: SEASONAL & YEAR-ROUND, residential and commercial real estate. Contact Dream Realty: 207-824-4300 or e-mail: info@dreamrealty.me

RUMFORD POINT: Country 2 bedroom home. Private, deck with mountain views, partially furnished. References and deposit. Call for details. 364-8742

RUMFORD: 2 bedroom 3rd floor apartment. Off street parking, 131 Penobscot Street. Responsible adults please. $550, heat included. 207-515-0386

RUSTIC LOG HOME IN HANOVER , 1 bedroom, Screened in Porch , New Fridge, See Pics on Craigslist. No Pets Please. $550.00/ Mo. 207-357-5368

SEASONAL CHALET RENTAL: Sunday River Viking Village. 31 Viking Village Road. 700 feet to Roadrunner trail. 207-824-2315.

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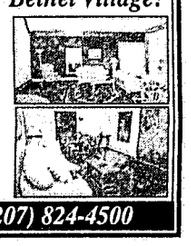

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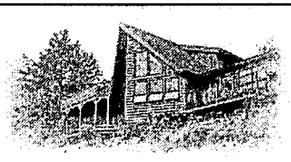

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2011, a Judgment of Foreclosure and Order of Sale was entered by the District Court, District Eleven, Division of Northern Oxford, in an action entitled The Summit Condominium Owners Association v. Bryan T. King and Leslie A. King, under Docket No. RUM-RE-11-16, for the foreclosure of condominium association fees due from the said Bryan T. King and Leslie A. King to The Summit Condominium Owners Association, a copy of said Judgment being duly recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds in Book 4778, Page 132, and,

WHEREAS, the statutory ninety (90) day redemption period has elapsed without redemption by the said Defendants, their successors or assigns;

NOW, THEREFORE, by order of and in execution of said Judgment of Foreclosure and Order of Sale, notice is herby given that there will be sold at public sale at 10:15 a.m. on Friday, January 20, 2012, at the office of John S. Jenness, Jr., Esq., at 23 Market Square, South Paris, Maine, all and singular the premises described in said Judgment, to wit:

Certain real estate located in the Town of Newry, County of Oxford and State of Maine, more particularly described as follows:

Unit No. 161/163 Time Share Unit Quarter IV in Building II of Phase II in the Summit at Sunday River, A Condominium, located in the Town of Newry, County of Oxford and State of Maine, a condominium established by Sunday River Skiway Corporation pursuant to the Maine Condominium Act and by Declaration of Condominium dated December 14, 1992, and recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds, Eastern District, in Book 1965, Page 187 (which Declaration, together with the Exhibits and/or appendices thereto, and any amendments, is herein termed "Declaration" and to which reference is hereby made), which said unit is shown on the floor plans of the building identified above recorded simultaneously with said Declaration in said Registry of Deeds. Reference is also made to survey plan, by Dana C. Douglass, Jr., R.S., likewise recorded simultaneously with said Declaration in said Registry.
Being precisely the same premises conveyed to Bryant T. King and Leslie A. King by Warranty Deed of Gail M. Eldridge Carter dated November 30, 2006, which is recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds in Book 4058, Page 258, and entitled and subject to all benefits and restrictions as described therein.

TERMS OF SALE: Pursuant to Title 14 M.R.S.A. §6323, the public sale shall be held not less than thirty (30) days nor more than forty-five (45) days after the first date of publication of this Notice. The Association shall sell the premises to the highest bidder at the public sale and deliver a deed of such sale to the purchaser, which deed shall convey the premises free and clear of all interest of the parties-in-interest joined in the action. The Association or any other party-in-interest may bid at the public sale. All bids are to be supported by 10% deposit, except for banks. All deposits are to be made either in cash or by certified check at the time of bidding. Closing on the sale shall occur within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale. All other terms are to be announced at its place of business in Newry, Maine, or the undersigned attorney for the Association.

DATED AT PARIS, MAINE, this 10th day of December, 2011

THE SUMMIT CONDOMINIUM OWNERS ASSOCIATION
By: John S. Jenness, Jr.
Its Attorney
23 Market Square
South Paris, Maine 04281
(207) 743-2096

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2011, a Judgment of Foreclosure and Order of Sale was entered by the District Court, District Eleven, Division of Northern Oxford, in an action entitled The Summit Condominium Owners Association v. Kathryn Morris Early, under Docket No. RUM-RE-11-15, for the foreclosure of condominium association fees due from the said Kathryn Morris Early to The Summit Condominium Owners Association, a copy of said Judgment being duly recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds in Book 4778, Page 128, and,

WHEREAS, the statutory ninety (90) day redemption period has elapsed without redemption by the said Defendants, their successors or assigns;

NOW, THEREFORE, by order of and in execution of said Judgment of Foreclosure and Order of Sale, notice is herby given that there will be sold at public sale at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 20, 2012, at the office of John S. Jenness, Jr., Esq., at 23 Market Square, South Paris, Maine, all and singular the premises described in said Judgment, to wit:

Certain real estate located in the Town of Newry, County of Oxford and State of Maine, more particularly described as follows:

Unit No. 136 Time Share Unit Quarter III in Building I of Phase I in The Summit at Sunday River, A Condominium, located in the Town of Newry, County of Oxford and State of Maine, a condominium established by Sunday River Skiway Corporation pursuant to the Maine Condominium Act and by Declaration of Condominium dated December 14, 1992, and recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds, Eastern District, in Book 1965, Page 187 (which Declaration, together with the Exhibits and/or appendices thereto, and any amendments, is hereby termed "Declaration" and to which reference is hereby made), which said unit is shown on the floor plans of the building identified above recorded simultaneously with said Declaration in said Registry of Deeds. Reference is also made to survey plan, by Dana C. Douglass, Jr., R.S., likewise recorded simultaneously with said Declaration in said Registry.

Being precisely the same premises conveyed to Kathryn Morris Early by Warranty Deed of Sunday River Skiway Corporation dated December 22, 1992, which is recorded in the Oxford County Registry of Deeds in Book 1973, Page 173, and entitled and subject to all benefits and restrictions as described therein.

TERMS OF SALE: Pursuant to Title 14 M.R.S.A. §6323, the public sale shall be held not less than thirty (30) days nor more than forty-five (45) days after the first date of publication of this Notice. The Association shall sell the premises to the highest bidder at the public sale and deliver a deed of such sale to the purchaser, which deed shall convey the premises free and clear of all interest of the parties-in-interest joined in the action. The Association or any other party-in-interest may bid at the public sale. All bids are to be supported by 10% deposit, except for banks. All deposits are to be made either in cash or by certified check at the time of bidding. Closing on the sale shall occur within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale. All other terms are to be announced at its place of business in Newry, Maine, or the undersigned attorney for the Association.

DATED AT PARIS, MAINE, this 10th day of December, 2011

THE SUMMIT CONDOMINIUM OWNERS ASSOCIATION
By: John S. Jenness, Jr.
Its Attorney
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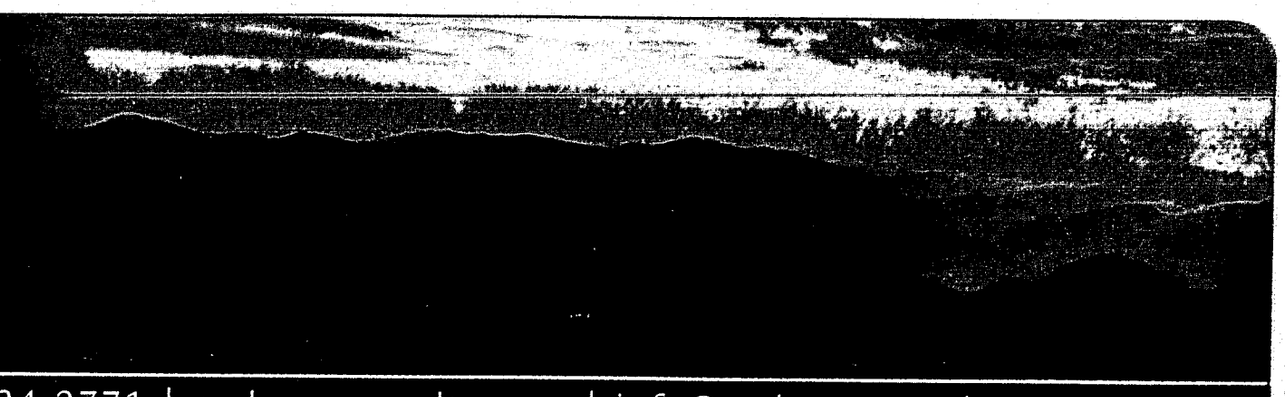

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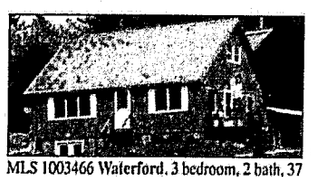

MLS 1003466 Waterford. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 37 acres. Wonderful scenic setting. fields,woodland, brook, quaint stone bridge entry to nicely cared for spacious cape.Southerly facing for lots of sunshine. Early P&B barn for storage and cozy screenhouse with firepit for outdoor fun. Minutes to villages, beach school. REDUCED TO $275,000!

MLS 1013576 Bethel. Spacious ranch on lovely lot just outside Bethel. 1.79 ac. Bright living room with fireplace, family-room with hearth, roomy kitchen. Screened porch. Home designed with handicap accessible doors/hallways. Have an RV? Store it in the oversize garage bay. 4-season ME & NH recreation within close distance. $198,600

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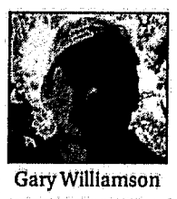
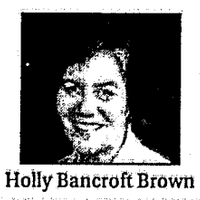


Gary Williamson



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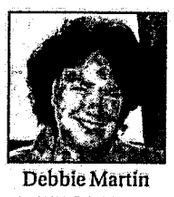
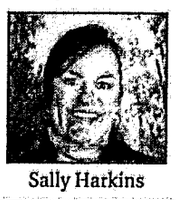


Debbie Martin



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71 North Shore Road Albany Township
Live your Dream! Exceptional waterfront 3 bedroom cottage, with screened porch steps from the water. Quintessential lake house details - Stone fireplace, open floor plan, hardwood doors, tastefully furnished. Additional bunk house, sleeps 4!

20 Deer Run Rd., Newry
Spacious interior and private setting! Excellent location close to mountain. Great room with gas fireplace and cathedral ceiling, 3 BR's, family room with pool table, plus bonus rooms in finished basement, mud room entry, hot tub, deck. Furniture included! $219,000

5 Mozee's Way, Bethel, ME
Custom Built home with many fine finish details. Bright & Sunny with idyllic open meadows & mountain views!There are many possibilities!4 bdrm Septic System! Development potential with 4 additional homesites.Infrastructure in place. Live your Dream! $175,000

1068 Songo Pond Rd. Albany Township
Great Value! Renovated starter home and/or investment property. This 2 bedroom cape is on 2.82 acres with potential for expansion and/or new construction. Tiled kitchen, woodstove hook-up, 5 miles to Bethel. $109,000

13 Haley Lane, Bethel
Custom built log-sided home with special attention to detail. Hand carved hickory floors, field-tone fireplace, ensuite master bedroom -porcelain tile, granite, pocket doors. Oversized screened porch. Open vaulted pine ceiling in Livingroom. Great vibe! $289,000

45 Cross Road, Greenwood
Unique opportunity to own the "little red school house. Located .5 miles from the Westside lodge, also has direct access to snow mobile trails that take you to downtown Bethel. Dug well a& heating system to be connected, wood stove already in place! $29,000

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Twitchell Pond Waterfront	50 Alpine Shore
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Obituaries

DORIS M. WATERHOUSE

Doris M. Waterhouse, 78, of West Paris, passed away, Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2011 at Stephens Memorial Hospital in Norway.

She was born in Woodstock, Maine, on March 26, 1933 to Lamont Toothaker and Arlene (Smith) Cummings.

She attended various schools in the area. On June 18, 1950 she married Lloyd Waterhouse. For many years she worked as a housekeeper at Stephens Memorial Hospital in Norway as well as at Penley's and Mann's Mill.

She was a member of Grace Fellowship Church in Oxford and the Ladies for God. She had served as Den Mother for the Boy Scouts. She looked forward to going to the Allagash with her husband, Lloyd, every year. Doris loved feeding the birds and especially loved seeing the Baltimore Orioles and Cardinals. She liked horses, enjoyed watching the Red Sox, stockcar racing and raced in the powder puff and demolition derby where she was known as "Hot Dot."

Doris is survived by her husband, Lloyd Waterhouse, of 61 years; three sons: Kevin Waterhouse and wife Elaine of West Paris, Gary Waterhouse and partner Bonnie of West Paris, Fred Waterhouse and companion Becky of Norway; daughter, Gail Boutilier and partner Roger of West Paris; stepmother, Ruth "Nana" Toothaker; brothers, Garfield Toothaker of Gorham, Dickie Toothaker of Weld, Eddie Toothaker of Fryeburg; sisters, Pat Smith of China, Maine, and Carol Parisi; grandchildren, Shanda Record, Tammy Hinckley, Angela Dow, Kevin Vezina, Troy Vezina, Jennifer Waterhouse, Deanna Waterhouse, Amey Lewin, Misty Coffin, Devin Coffin, Beth Coffin and Shawn Boutilier; great grandchildren, Desarea, Kristy-Lee, Billy Sammie, Kaylee, Quentin, Derrick, Kevin, Natasha, Dustin, Jessica, Melissa, Justice, Ashley, Waken, Daeson, Dakovin, Gage; great great grandchild, Owen; numerous nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by her brother, Cliff Cummings; sister, Ellie Witham; and foster Mother, Dorothy Putnam.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 17 at the Grace Fellowship Church, Oxford. Interment was at the Wayside Cemetery in West Paris. A In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Doris's memory to the Grace Fellowship Church, P.O. Box 162, West Paris, ME 04289. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.oxfordhillsfuneralservices.com

ROLAND J. GAGNE JR.

Roland Joseph Gagne Jr., 69, of Waterford, died Thursday, Dec. 15, 2011, at Portsmouth Regional Hospital.

He was born at Central Maine Medical Center on Mar. 15, 1942, the son of Roland and Eleanor (Frost) Gagne.

Roland had worked most of his life as a heavy equipment operator. He had lived in the Oxford Hills area for more than 38 years. Roland enjoyed the outdoors, all New England sports teams and watching Westerns and war movies. The things he enjoyed the most were helping others and being with family and friends. He was a very caring, giving person who helped others in need even when he didn't have it.

His wife, children, and grandchildren were his pride and joy in life. He found great pleasure in cruising around the Oxford Hills where he was fondly known by all as Dad or Papa G. Roland spent most of his years in the excavation industry, where he excelled as a heavy-equipment operator and pit boss. He made many, many friends in the excavation business and some became his most beloved to the end.

He is survived by his children, John S. Gagne, Roland L. Gagne, Lisa H. Rideau, Rodney R. Bartlett and Jo-Ellen A. Strout; brothers, Richard J. Gagne, Raymond J. Gagne and Ronald J. Gagne; grandchildren, Matthew Willard, Brandi Turkewitz, Zoya Burns, Brittany Gagne, Stacia Burns, Haley Rideau, Danielle Gagne, Christian Burns, Joshua Gagne, Elijah Strout, Alexander Bartlett, Jackson Bartlett and Melinda Davis; great-grandchild, Kamaren Turkewitz; and best friend, Sherwin "Bucky" Buck. Roland was predeceased by his wife, Portia Ellen Gagne (Cushman), in 2008; a brother, Robert J. Gagne; a sister, Carolyn Sewyer; and a granddaughter, Mirranda Gagne.

Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.oxfordhillsfuneralservices.com.

GEORGENA ROBERTS

Georgena B. Roberts, 85, of Norway, passed away, Thursday, Dec. 15, 2011 at Market Square Health Care Center, South Paris.

She was born in West Paris, Oct. 18, 1926, to George E. and Arabella (Estes) Buck. Georgena attended West Paris schools and was a graduate of West Paris High School in 1944.

She married Leslie A. Roberts on April 2, 1960. She worked for approximately 30 years as a bookkeeper for Goodwins Dairy and Goodwins Dairy Shops. During later years, she worked as a part-time bookkeeper for Oxford Hills Video and Lars T Ltd.

She was a member of West Paris Universalist Church and a lifetime member of West Paris Alumni Association. She enjoyed her flowers, fishing, camping and doing picture puzzles and crossword puzzles.

Georgena is survived by her husband, Leslie, of Norway; son, Bruce Roberts of Oxford; five daughters, Ruth Smith of Livermore Falls, Carolee Masselli of Chiefland, Fla., Linda Hoyt of South Paris, Marilyn Foster of Newcastle and Brenda Shelton of Oxford; 13 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. She was predeceased by four brothers; and three sisters.

Graveside services were held Sunday, Dec. 18, at Wayside Cemetery, West Paris. In lieu of flowers donations may be ade in Georgena's memory to Amerian Heart Association, PO Box 3049, Syracuse, NY 13220-3049.

Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.oxfordhillsfuneralservices.com.

MARY D. HAZELTON

Mary D. Hazelton, 90, formerly of Locke Mills, passed away Nov. 12 at her home in West Covina, Calif.

She was born Nov. 4, 1921 in Locke Mills to Owen and Bertha (Bartlett) Davis. She was able to celebrate her 90th birthday with all her children present. She attended the local school and graduated from Woodstock High School in 1939. She married Maynard Hazelton in 1947 and they lived in Locke Mills.

Before moving to California in the early 1960s, she worked for Lee Mills at his store in Locke Mills Village. She was a life member of the Greenwood Historical Society.

Mary is survived by her five children: Gary Fuller of Locke Mills, Joy (Fuller) Harding of Arizona; Linda Smith, Thomas Hazelton and Susan Hazelton of California; siblings Joan Kimball of Rumford, Betty Hollis of Norway, and John Davis of South Paris; sister-in-law Katie Pachloski of Norway, several grandchildren, great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. She was pre-deceased by her parents, her husband, Maynard, and grandson Robbie Smith.

Births

Chris and Karin Bisson, West Paris, are pleased to announce the birth of a baby boy, born at Stephens Memorial Hospital, Norway, on Dec. 15, 2011. Oliver Drow Bisson weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Gary and Edie Okenquist, Bethel.

Paternal grandparents are Robert Bisson, Lewiston, and the late Janet Beane, Hebron.

Oliver joins one sister, Amelia, age 3.

In Loving Memory of

Adam Christopher

June 26, 1985 ~ December 9, 2011

God has taken back one of his children. Adam passed away on Friday, December 9, 2011, at home after a life-long battle with cystic fibrosis. Adam was born June 26, 1985 to Gilbert Christopher and Michelle Moreno. Adam was a truly fine young man and will leave a huge void in our lives. He loved animals and they all loved him. He had a very beautiful smile that we will all miss so much. He was truly a beautiful boy. Adam, we love you very much and can't imagine continuing on this journey without you. You will be forever in our hearts and souls. We will never forget your sweet smile. Adam is in God's hands. We will forever miss our beautiful boy.

Getting Tired

God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around you and whispered, "Come to me". A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands now rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us he only takes the best.

Missing you until our paths cross again
Dad, Debbie, Nick, Corey & Madison

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NEWS AND PHOTOS FROM CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The Citizen welcomes submissions of news items and photographs from local clubs and organizations.

The deadline for clubs and organizational items is noon Monday, but earlier submission is appreciated.

All **news articles** should be typed or printed legibly, and include the name and daytime telephone number of a contact person.

Photos: When submitting photographs, please identify the nature and date of the activity, the names of everyone shown in the photograph, and the name of the photographer. Please also provide the name and telephone number of a contact person.

Submissions can be dropped off at The Citizen office (behind the Bethel Town Office) or mailed to P.O. Box 109, Bethel, ME, 04217. During non-business hours, items can be placed in the mailbox outside our office. For further information, call 824-2444.

News and photos can also be submitted by e-mail: news@bethelcitizen.com.

Returns: Due to the volume of material passing through our office, we regret that we cannot be responsible for unsolicited submissions.

In Memory Of
Patricia Blaquiere
On Her Birthday
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Lonnie & Arlene, Elizabeth Nancy

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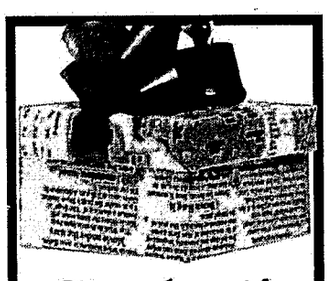
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A	X	E	L		A	L	A	N		M	E	M	O	
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